

ASTINGS
OF BYGONE DAYS---
AND THE PRESENT

SECOND EDITION



HENRY COUSINS

F. P. GARDINER

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HASTINGS:
OF BYGONE DAYS--AND THE PRESENT.

(SECOND EDITION) REVISED.

1920.

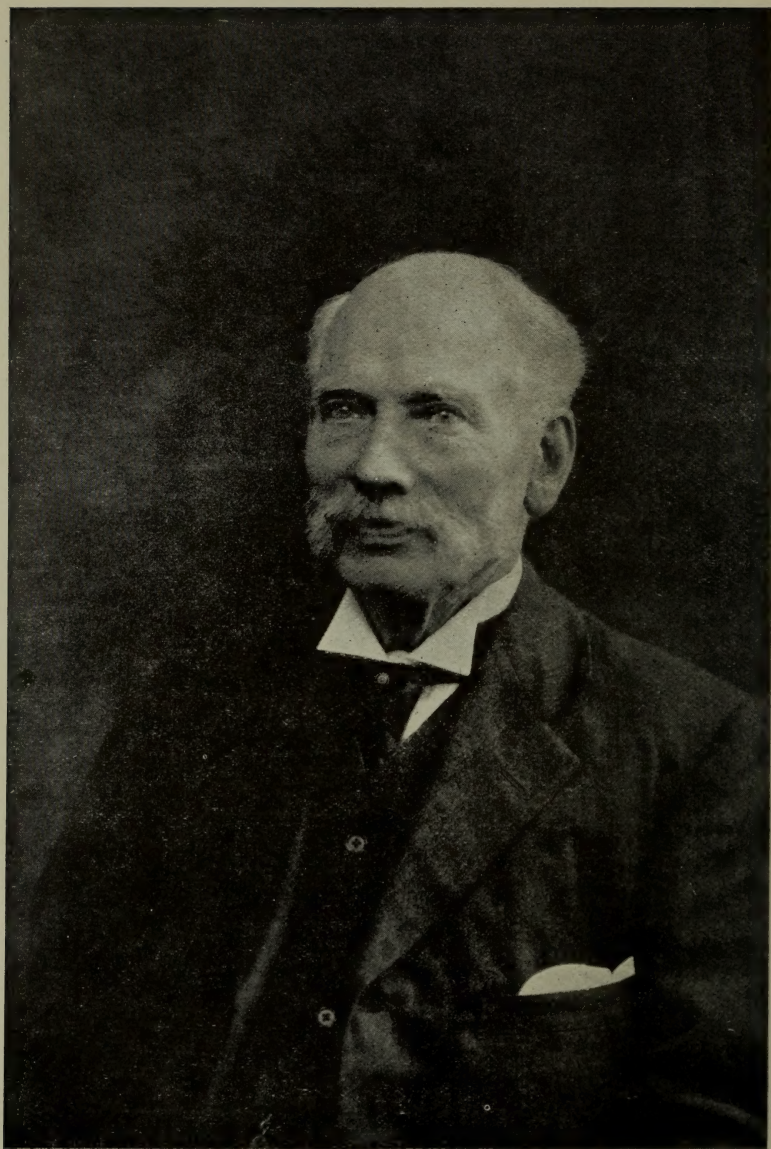
PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

The public appreciation of the first edition of "Hastings of Bygone Days—and the Present" which rendered necessary the announcement "Out of Print," in 1919, was naturally gratifying to the Author and Compiler, who spent three years in its production. Insistant applications for the work were made to the publishers, who decided that a second edition, corrected and revised, was called for. The work was sent to all parts of the world where natives of Hastings had settled, while the encomiums of the Press on the first edition were most flattering and encouraging.

I desire to tender my thanks and appreciation for their kindly help to Mr. J. A. Ray, F.S.A., in revising the chapters on "Ancient Hastings"; to my friend Mr. James Castello, for his revision of the List of Old Guide Books of Hastings (of which he possesses a unique collection); to Mr. Thomas Parkin, M.A., F.R.H.S., for allowing me "the run of" and loans from his valuable local collections and library of books and views of the town; to my old friend Mr. Alfred Bryant of Enfield, an old Hasteringer (now nearing his ninetieth year), for his help in the compilation of the Chronological Table of Events, from his notes collected and preserved through his long life; and to others who in any way have rendered their help.

HENRY COUSINS.

THE AUTHOR.



from truly Henry Consens

HASTINGS

OF BYGONE DAYS—

AND THE PRESENT.

*Profusely Illustrated by views reproduced from Original
and Rare Old Prints, Engravings, Oil Paintings,
Water Colours, Photos, etc., specially for this
Work, side by side with views of the
present day.*

By HENRY COUSINS,

LECTURER ON HASTINGS—"PAST AND PRESENT."

SECOND EDITION—REVISED.

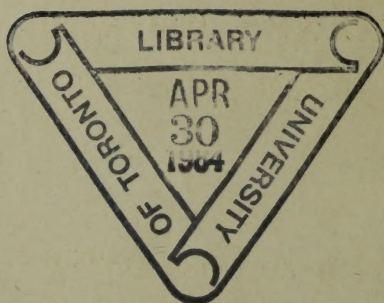
HASTINGS.

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1920.

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PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

Many descriptive Guides to Hastings (by which it must be understood to include St. Leonards) have been published at intervals since Mr. Stell issued his first known Guide from his library in Cobourg Place, written by himself under the *nom de plume* of "By an Inhabitant," in 1794,* when the Old Town was already attracting visitors from London and elsewhere to enjoy the sea breezes, and the recuperative properties of the salubrious air of its hills and valleys. This was followed by Barry's Guide, 1797, and Powell's, 1819, both of which passed through several editions, and Stockdale's, 1817. All these early Guides contained a few illustrations and maps of the locality. It was not until Mr. W. G. Moss published his excellent Guide in 1824 (the letterpress of which Mr. Dawson, in his exhaustive and learned work on Hastings Castle, recently published, informs us was written by Mr. Herbert, the Librarian of the Guildhall Library) that any extensive effort was made by way of illustrations of any number or merit. Mr. Moss was a draughtsman to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, and the series of excellent engravings from his original drawings with which his History of Hastings is embellished is a proof of the admirable work of that period. This was followed by many others of a later date, by Ross, 1835—then in 1855 was issued that carefully compiled and interesting handbook on "Hastings—Past and Present," by Miss Mary Matilda Howard, an authoress of repute, and published by Diplock; and in 1867 the late Mr. T. H. Cole published his "Antiquities of Hastings," with maps and plans of the Castle, the Battlefield, &c., bestowing the utmost care and great research in its preparation. While Moss's and Cole's works are frequently quoted by modern antiquarians, no attempt of a comprehensive character has been made of giving a Pictorial History of the town prior to and since its rise from a small place of about 3,000 inhabitants in 1800, to the second largest fashionable health resort on the Sussex Coast, with its three miles of magnificent Sea Promenade.

It was not until the writer had compiled his popular Lecture, entitled "Hastings—Past and Present," which has been delivered in collaboration with Mr. C. W. Banks on twenty occasions during the past twelve years, that a work of this kind had suggested itself, but during this period it was frequently urged that a reproduction of pictures illustrating Old Hastings and its rise to its present position, with descriptive letterpress in book form, would

* Mr. Stell, in the preface to his Guide of 1794, says :—"It is now six years since I opened a Circulating Library in this Town, during which time the constant enquiry of every stranger has been, 'Have you any History or other account of Hastings.' A late much-lamented author, on receiving the usual negative, replied, 'Why don't you write one?' Thus encouraged, I determined to attempt the task." Barry's Guide of 1797 was a reprint of this, with the same title page, but without the preface. It is to be noticed that Barry uses the final "s" in Hastings. I am inclined to think Barry took over Stell's Library.—AUTHOR.

be appreciated by hundreds of Hastingsers in all parts of the world, to remind them of their native place in bygone times and by those who are still amongst us. This was made possible by the valuable assistance of the Publishers, with the cordial help and encouragement received from the leading Members of the Museum Committee and others possessing rare pictures of Old Hastings, and who placed their collections at the disposal of the writer for the purpose of reproduction in this work, and further by the aid of photography and the modern methods of reproduction and printing which rendered this possible.

In the belief that the History of Ancient Hastings has been sufficiently treated by early writers and is at the disposal in the Public Library of those wishing to consult them, this work is more particularly confined to the period from its rise to eminence, which commenced in the latter half of the 18th century.

The writer desires to tender his grateful thanks to and appreciation for the encouragement received from Mr. W. V. Crake, B.A., Mr. Thomas Parkin, M.A., F.R.Hist.S., Mr. M. Sullivan, A.R.C.A., Mr. W. Ruskin Butterfield (Curator of the Museum), the Hastings Corporation and Committee of the Museum, the Rev. W. Sayer-Milward, Mr. Charles Lane Sayer, London (the Editor of the "Collier Letters"),* the Rev. H. C. B. Foyster, Mr. W. Brown, Mr. James Foster, Mr. Philip Cole, Mr. A. F. Wood, Mr. J. E. Savery (London), Mr. Geo. J. Wood, Dr. G. Vickerman Hewland, Mr. John Bray, Mr. Philip Tree, F.R.I.B.A., Councillor Joseph Adams, J.P., C.C. (Mayor of Rye), Mr. Edw. A. Notcutt, Mr. Chas. Dawson, F.S.A., F.G.S. (author of "The History of Hastings Castle"), Mr. Wm. Carless, M.A., J.P., Mr. J. R. Mitchell, Mr. Arthur Watson, Mr. A. R. Perry, Mr. Fred. G. Langham, M.A., LL.B., Mr. Alfred Blackman, J.P., Mr. J. E. Ray, Mr. Alfred Bryant (Enfield), Mr. A. G. Fidler (Enfield), Miss Clark, and others who have kindly placed their collections of Views at his disposal, or offered to assist in any way. My special thanks are due to Mr. C. Lane-Sayer for revising the proof of my extracts from the "Collier Letters"; to Mr. Chas. Dawson for revising the proof of my chapter on "Roman, Saxon and Norman Hastings"; to the Hon. Robert Marsham-Townshend, for revising my proof on "Admiral Sir Cloudesley Shovell"; to Mr. T. Parkin, M.A., for revising the article on "Cricket," and his ready help in many other ways, and to the Controller of His Majesty's Stationery Office for his permission to use the Plan and Official Report on the Derelict Lands of Hastings, known as America Ground.

HENRY COUSINS.

* Mr. Charles Lane Sayer, who compiled "The Collier Letters," a private work in 2 vols., forming the family letters of John Collier, Esquire, from the beginning of the 18th Century until his death, and embracing a most interesting description of the social, political and commercial life in Hastings during that period, from which Mr. Sayer has so kindly allowed the author to make extracts for the purpose of this book. Mr. John Collier lived at Old Hastings House, High Street, Hastings.

THE AUTHOR'S CREDENTIALS.

“YOUR LECTURE ON OLD HASTINGS.

“ST. LEONARDS,

“February 5th, 1902.

“DEAR MR. COUSINS,

“Carrying my memory back as I do to the Hastings of 80 years ago, I can but congratulate you on the success of your efforts to produce an entertainment as instructive as it is amusing. I was one among your crowded audience at Silverhill (accompanied by Mr. William Ransom and Mr. Fredk. Tree, senior, old Hastings), and was pleased to find by the frequent plaudits how much the illustrated lecture was enjoyed ; and also to see with my own eyes how truthfully the views of the Old Town and its neighbourhood were thrown upon the screen. It is, I know, thought by some persons that only a comparatively few are really interested in our local history of bygone times, but the pleasure evinced by the audience at your lecture, as well as the numerous applications (personal and by letter) to myself as an old man of the town, convince me that there is quite a numerous public desirous of knowing to some extent the marvellous strides of our borough from the past to the present. I noticed many views which dated before my time, but the majority came within my own knowledge, some of which made me feel to be again living in the past. I could have added a few personal experiences in corroboration of your excellent lecture, but which in some small measure (though unintentional) might have detracted from the merit of your evidently correct and painstaking production. I am of opinion that our townspeople are greatly indebted to you for such an entertainment.

“Yours truly, THOMAS BRANDON BRETT.”

(*Local Historian.*)

“HIGHLANDS COTTAGE,

“ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA,

“July 22nd, 1902.

“DEAR SIR,

“Would you be disposed to act as Guide with explanatory remarks, to an excursion of Sussex Archæologists to the old houses in All Saints Street and the Bourne, on the morning of the 13th August ?

“Yours truly, W. V. CRAKE.”

Extract from the report of the above excursion from *Hastings Observer* of August 16th, 1902 :—“After leaving St. Clement's Church, Mr. W. V. Crake introduced Mr. Henry Cousins and stated that he would point out and explain the old houses and other points of interest in the Old Town, of which Mr. Cousins had a vast knowledge, acquired as a student of local history and a lecturer on 'Hastings — Past and Present.'”

HASTINGS OF BYGONE DAYS.

REFERENCES TO PRE-HISTORIC, BRITISH, ROMAN, SAXON, AND NORMAN HASTINGS

ITS EARLY HISTORY.

I have already said in the preface to this work that my object has been to gather together a series of pictorial evidences of Old Hastings, so far as I have been enabled, and to set them side by side with views of the same localities of the present day, rather than to attempt to deal with its ancient history, a subject already covered by learned writers connected by birth or residence with the county of Sussex, whose several works are open to all who wish to consult them. To my local readers, our Reference Library at Claremont and the Hastings Museum will afford abundant and intensely interesting evidences of the antiquity and importance of Hastings, and the part played by its men and ships in the King's service in bygone days. Whether the town was a Roman station or not (upon which chroniclers differ), the contiguity of its hills to the mainland, the flat and marshy lands stretching to Beachy Head on the west, and to the Kentish hills on the east, the Forest Ridge on the north, and the haven formed by its hills and valleys, and other physical causes, have led some historians to the belief that Cæsar in his *Commentaries* referred* to the coast and people of our isle, represented by Sussex and Kent, and that he found the aborigines a more superior and intelligent people than those in the interior.

David Hume, in his History of England, briefly refers to this subject as follows :—“All ancient writers agree in representing the first inhabitants of Britain as a tribe of the Gauls or Celtæ who peopled the island from the neighbouring continent. Their language was the same, their manners, their government, their superstition, varied only by those small differences which time or a communication with the bordering nations must necessarily introduce. The Greek and Roman navigators or merchants (for there were scarcely any other travellers in those days) brought back the most shocking accounts of the ferocity of the people, which they magnified, as usual, in order to excite the admiration of their country-

men. The *south-east parts*, however, of Britain, had already, before the age of Cæsar, made the first, and most requisite step towards a civil government, and the Britons, by tillage and agriculture, had there increased to a great multitude (Cæsar, lib. iv.). The other inhabitants of the island still maintained themselves by pasture; they were clothed with skins of beasts; they dwelt in huts, which they reared in the forests and marshes with which the country was covered; they shifted easily their habitation, when actuated either by the hopes of plunder or fear of an enemy; the convenience of feeding their cattle was even a sufficient motive for removing their seats; as they were ignorant of all the refinements of life, their wants and their possessions were equally scanty and limited. They were divided into small nations or tribes, and being a military people, whose sole property was their arms and their cattle, it was impossible, after they had acquired a relish of liberty, for their princes and chieftains to establish any despotic authority over them—hunting and fishing for their food, tilling the ground and fighting their enemies seemed their principal occupations. Their religion was governed by the Druids, who were their priests, and possessed great power over them. Directing their religious duties and presiding over the education of youth, a primitive kind of civil and criminal jurisdiction was exercised. No species of superstition was ever more terrible than that of the Druids. They practised their rites in dark groves or other secret recesses, and in order to throw a greater mystery over their religion, they communicated their doctrines only to the initiated, and strictly forbade the committing them to writing. Human sacrifices were practised among them; the spoils of war were devoted to their divinities. No idolatrous worship ever attained such an ascendant over mankind as that of the ancient Gauls and Britons; and the Romans after their conquest, finding it impossible to reconcile those nations to the law and institutions of their masters, while it maintained its authority, were at last obliged to abolish it by penal statutes; a violence which had never before been practised by those tolerating conquerors.”

Such were the aborigines described by Hume who inhabited Britain at the time of the Roman invasion. Numerous relics of the earlier or prehistoric age have been brought to light by one of our townsmen, Mr. W. J. Lewis Abbott, F.G.S., who has collected specimens of their implements, tools, rude pottery, domestic articles, bones, shells, ornaments, weapons, etc., forming a wonderful collection representative of the habits of these early settlers found on the dust heaps or the kitchen-middens of Hastings, and the rocks and fissures of the district. Mr. Lewis Abbott has written and lectured much upon this interesting and unique subject, and few will forget his marvellous exhibit in the local Museum some years ago and his wonderful accounts of the old hunter-fishermen whose

“settlements were here under the lee of the high cliffs and rocks of our shores.”

ROMAN HASTINGS.

The Roman invasion of Britain is said to have commenced with the landing of Cæsar in 55 B.C.

The late Mr. T. H. Cole, M.A., in his *Antiquities of Hastings*, asserts that “some of the ships that fought Cæsar hailed from our own old port, for Cæsar tells us the Britons used iron, and that iron was found near the coast. Now it is only in the cliffs and valleys adjoining Hastings that it is to be met with, and on either side of our Priory valley the ancient ironworks can yet be pointed out. (See Cole’s Map.) This harbour, then, in particular, would be in great demand for transporting this metal to the other parts of Britain and to Gaul. It would be of necessity a great emporium, where cargoes of iron would be exchanged for the copper which Cæsar tells us was imported. The ships that frequented this haven must have formed no inconsiderable part of the British armament that went to the aid of their allies in Gaul. These allies, when hard pressed, took refuge in towns placed at the extremities of the lofty cliffs overlooking the harbours in which their ships found shelter.” There is evidence of an old cemetery (13th century) on the East Hill; and near the open triangular space the late Mr. Thos. Ross discovered a burial place. Bodies were found lying in charcoal, and beside each what appeared to be iron rivets and large-headed nails. The iron rivets are characteristic of the iron region. But the existence of a Roman town therein is mere conjecture. Then the author quotes Professor Airy, late Astronomer Royal, according to whom “it was from our Hastings hills that the Triumvir saw the native forces in armed array. Be that as it may, Cæsar describes the place he reached as a narrow inlet of the sea, shut in by heights, from which weapons could be discharged upon the shore beneath, a description which would tally well with our old haven. “Mr. Cole quotes other authorities indicating that the town was of Roman origin, including Mr. Bradley’s Ptolemaic Measurements of the South Coast—Journ. Brit. Arch. A. Vol. 37, part 3, p. 227.—“In the list of places on the South Coast of Britain occur the Portus Novus, one degree west of the Promontory of Kent, which may be identified either with the North or South Foreland,” and Mr. Bradley observes, “after due allowance for the difference between Ptolemy’s degrees of longitude and our own this indicates the precise longitude of Hastings. Now it is well known that Hastings did once possess an excellent harbour. The fact that this has now disappeared seems to shew that it was an artificial harbour, constructed in *defiance* of the natural unfitness of the site, exactly, in fact, what the term Portus Novus (New Port) would naturally be

supposed to imply.” By quoting other longitudinal calculations, Mr. Cole winds up his argument thus :—“1st, actual examination of the locality shews the former existence of a harbour here, a fact in agreement with both tradition and history. 2nd, the encampment and vestiges of ironworks prove the harbour to have been known to the Romans. 3rd, a Roman harbour called Portus Novus was situated at this very part of the Coast. These three considerations put together seem to lead inevitably to the conclusion that Hastings was a Roman Port, and that Portus Novus was the name of Roman Hastings.”

Mr. Dawson, in his “Hastings Castle,” has the following reference to Roman Hastings : “At what time iron-ore was first worked in Sussex for smelting, is a question which we cannot answer at present for want of evidence ; but it is almost certain that the passage in Cæsar’s Commentaries of the Gallic War, which states that iron is found in the maritime districts, related to the iron found near the Sussex Shores. If so, this would go to prove that the art of smelting iron was practised in Sussex before the first Roman Invasion, although earlier remains have not been positively identified in the cinder-heaps which abound in the vicinity of Hastings. The magnificent gold hoard discovered in 1863 at Mountfield, testified that Hastings was, at all events, near some important centre of the Celtic tribes. It is quite certain that iron-ore was extensively worked in Sussex during the time of the Roman occupation of Britain. Roman and Romano-British remains are common in the cinder-heaps of Beauport, near Hastings.” So far as the Author is able to ascertain there is not sufficient evidence to shew that any considerable settlement existed at Hastings itself during Roman times. The reported discoveries of remains dating from this period are so extremely rare and doubtful, taking into account the large amount of excavation which has been carried out at Hastings for building purposes during recent years, that it is impossible to conceive that anything like a fair-sized settlement could have existed without leaving some more definite mark of its presence. It is, of course, possible to suppose, as some have done, that for a Roman *oppidum* (city or town) flourished south of the supposed shore, on land now submerged ; but even had this been the case, one would have surely found more evidences of its existence on the immediately adjoining land. On the other hand, it is quite within the bounds of possibility, owing to the “Eastward drift,” that there may have been no port on the site of Hastings during the Roman occupation. The supposed traces of Roman entrenchments (found by Ross) upon the East Hill must be considered, for the present at all events, very much open to question. Traces of Roman occupation have never been known to occur in or about the Castle or West Hill.

Much importance must be attached to the testimony of the author of “The History of Hastings Castle.”

SAXON HASTINGS.

The Roman occupation of Britain extended for over four-and-a-half centuries, and upon the fall of Rome their legions began to evacuate the country. Haydn's *Dictionary of Dates* states "that the Romans gradually withdrew from Britain from 402—436." Prior to their departure their powers had begun to wane and they had frequently to repel the attacks of those bold sea-rovers known as the Saxons, who eventually established themselves in 477 under the Saxon ÆLLA who founded the kingdom of the South Saxons or Sussex, although the Britons made strenuous attempts to check their advance, and it is supposed their great stand was made on the Sussex Shore culminating in the siege of Andredcester now recognised by historians to be the Pevensey now known to us. The Kingdom of the South Saxons probably included that part of the shore upon which Hastings is founded. The earliest reference to Hastings is contained in the Chronicle of Simeon of Durham, written in the 12th century, who compiled his record from earlier Saxon documents; that in 771 Offa, King of the Merceans, subdued by force of arms the Race of the Hastingi. From this race or tribe some writers claim our town received its name, while others state it was derived from a Danish Pirate of that name whose followers overran this part of the coast about 893. The former belief is supported by Sharon Turner in his *History of the Anglo-Saxons*, while the latter is given on the authority of Camden. The former claims the more credence, as it was discovered that the town was known as a port a century before the Viking Hastings flourished. Cole, in quoting from Taylor's *Words and Places*, says, "The Hastings, the noblest race of the Goths, seem to have held the eastern part of Sussex (known since the Conquest under the name of the rape of Hastings) as an independent community. *Portus Novus* falling into their hands after its abandonment by the Romans, became their capital, and thus acquired the name of Hastings by which it has ever since been known." And in the Charter granted by the Abbey of St. Denis in 790, Hastings is described as a Seaport. Dawson further states that "The earliest direct and unquestionably genuine reference to Hastings is that in the law of Athelstan, where a moneyer is appointed to the Mint at Hastings." This would point to the importance of Hastings as early as 924. This Mint is said to have been (as was usual) within the precincts of a fortress, and leads to the supposed existence of a Castle here before the Conquest. One of the earliest masters of the Hastings Mint was named Bridd according to *Ruding* in his work on coinage. Cole suggests him as an ancestor of the present family of Breeds (which family can certainly claim a long ancestry here). Another local writer has ventured an opinion that Bridd's descendants are represented by the local family of Brett or Britt on the ground that double *D* is pronounced like *th*. Might not Bridd have been a Welshman? There

are coins existing of several reigns struck at this Mint bearing the name of Bridd and sometimes Brid.

For all the known recorded evidences relating to Saxon Hastings, readers should refer to Dawson's *History of Hastings Castle*. Only peeps of it can be found and these are interestingly dealt with. The best known history of the Old Town commences with the Norman Conquest, after which the Conqueror took steps to make himself acquainted with the country over which he reigned. He ordered a Castle to be *duz*, on the site of the ruins of which now crown the heights of the West Hill, and the Domesday record which he had compiled remains a monument of his sagacity as a ruler. Dawson mentions the probability of the town of Hastings being destroyed at the time of the Norman Invasion in 1066. The "New Burg" of Domesday not improbably refers to the beginning of the new town of Hastings to the eastward, where it now stands, "in the valley of the Bourne," which forms part of the present Manor of Brede, and was presented to the Abbey of Fécamp of which mention is made elsewhere in this work.

NORMAN HASTINGS.

For two centuries prior to the Norman Conquest the country was in an unsettled state. It was overrun by the Danes when, in 871, King Alfred, after many vicissitudes, vanquished this warlike people and framed a code of laws, formed an army and navy, surveyed and subdivided the country and promoted education. In the following reign (Athelstan) the Mint was established within the fortress at Hastings. Edward the Confessor restored the Saxon dynasty in 1042 and from the Abbey of Fécamp received the important grant of Rye, Winchelsea, and the Bourne Valley in Hastings already alluded to. In 1050 the famous Godwin Earl of Wessex was engaged in naval warfare in which Hastings played her part, first against and then on his side. It was in the reign of the Confessor that Hastings was joined with Dover, Sandwich, Hythe, and Romney in the famous and privileged community of the *Cinque Ports*, the institution of which and the honours conferred upon the Cinque Ports in recognition of their provision of the Navy of England, have been kept alive to the present day although their ancient rights are now recognised by courtesy only and their attendance at the Coronation of King Edward VII. and George V. is but a shadow of their former privilege. Edward the Confessor died on the eve of Epiphany, 1066, when Harold was crowned King of England. Then followed that great event which changed the destinies of our country, the conquest of Britain by William of Normandy, which has made Hastings so familiar to the whole civilised world, and deprived Harold of his life and crown. The circumstances attending the invasion are matter of the chronicles of the time, and appertain to the general history of the period,

that it is almost irrelevant to repeat them here. Freeman's *History of the Norman Conquest* has superseded all modern accounts and is deeply interesting. The Conqueror's Legions landed on the flats of Pevensey, and in the formation of his plans of attack is said to have made Hastings his headquarters. To commemorate his victory the monks who attended William encouraged him to erect a monastery on the site where Harold fell and dedicate it to Saint Martin of Tours. Battle Abbey is the monument of the event. The chroniclers of the time mention that a large tract of country around Hastings was devastated by William's troops. The Conqueror, after the battle, ordered the construction of a wooden fortress at Hastings and the digging of a trench, a forerunner of the more lasting building of stone, the ruins of which still exist on the West Hill, the commander, according to Dawson, being Humphrey of Tilleul, one of his vassals. The conquest of England was accomplished after nearly twenty years of constant strife and bloodshed, during which period the faithful followers of the Conqueror were rewarded by grants of lands and estates confiscated from their Saxon owners to the victors. When the country became subservient to the new conditions in 1085-6, William ordered a general survey of England, a complete census of the people, their lands and possessions known as Domesday Book, the extraordinary detail of which has been looked upon as a marvel of lucidity. It was intended to be a register to determine the right in the tenure of estates, "to discover the quantity of every man's fees and to fix his homage, that is the question of military aid he was bound to furnish." From it the question of whether lands be ancient demesne or not, is sometimes still decided. Camden says "This Domesday Book was the tax book of King William." The taxes were levied according to this survey till the reign of Henry VIII., when, at the Reformation, a fresh survey was taken. The chief interest in the Conquest is the change that it is always said to have exercised in the character of the institutions of England. It is asserted that the feudal system existed before the arrival of the Normans, but was more rigidly applied after the Conquest, and Hume speaks of the division of the kingdom into so many knight's fiefs, into so many baronies, and the complete reorganisation of the whole constitution.

Dawson states "The Castle of Hastings was probably strongly garrisoned in 1085, when the Danes under Cnut were expected to invade England. And in speaking of the Domesday record mentions a striking omission of Hastings Castle or Town. That probably beneath the shadow of Hastings Castle in the valley to the East there had sprung up one of those Norman boroughs so frequently founded and fostered by the new Lords, consisting of a colony of tradesmen and craftsmen as an adjunct to the new garrison colony. Such may have been the 'New Burg' which according

to Domesday was founded on the lands of the Abbot of Fécamp and the 'Nove Hasting' of the Ripe Rolls."

Thus we get the first peeps at the Hastings of the present time. Count Robert of Eu was the first Lord of the Castlery of Hastings which remained in his family for many years, and who founded the Collegiate Church of St. Mary-in-the-Castle, Hastings, within its walls, some remains of which still exist.

At the death of William I. William Rufus, his second son, was appointed his successor to the Throne of England, and during his reign he occupied the Castle and held his Court there, and summoned the Bishops and Lords to do homage to their new King. By all accounts his court was corrupt and immoral. Archbishop Anselm admonished Rufus without effect, which led to a bitter feud between them. While his elder brother, Robert of Normandy, disputed by arms his right to the throne, Rufus assembled at Hastings an army for the purpose of crossing to Normandy; but the enterprise was abandoned and the quarrel subsided. During this reign Hastings was prominent as the centre of naval and military activity. A revolt of the Norman nobles who supported Robert's cause against Rufus, during which the Castles of Pevensey and Hastings were attacked and defended, while a fleet of war-ships guarded the coast and prevented the landing of a powerful army from Normandy sent by Duke Robert. The men of Hastings in their ships took an active part in attacking the advance of Robert's army, and it is recorded that "William's cruisers slew many of them on their passage to England, sank others at sea, so that no one could tell the number that perished." The History of Hastings Castle is the History of Hastings, and I commend readers to Mr. Charles Dawson's *History of Hastings Castle*, in which a connected account of the Castle and the Church of St. Mary-in-the Castle from its foundation in 1066 to the suppression of Monasteries 1547, will be found. Students of local history are under the deepest obligation to Mr. Dawson for his incomparable work, which should be in the library of all lovers of Hastings.

The Castle had been for centuries prior to the Dissolution in ruins, and at the death of Henry VIII., the Castle and Rape of Hastings was in the possession of the Earl of Huntingdon's family, so far as the Castle itself, but the Collegiate buildings had been granted to Sir Anthony Browne. Mr. Dawson gives us extracts from the original indenture of the sale of the Rape and Castle of Hastings to Thomas Pelham, Esq., in the 33rd of Elizabeth's reign (1591) whose descendant, the Earl of Chichester, is the present owner. What the civil and social life of its inhabitants was at this early period is obscure. Piracy on the high seas was rife, and doubtless export and import smuggling was the occupation of its bold and lawless sea rovers for centuries and continued till well into the 19th century, as recorded by Mr. Durrant Cooper, and later by Mr. John Banks in his "Smugglers and Smuggling."



[By permission of Mr. P. F. M. Cole]
AUGMENTED MAP OF HASTINGS.



[Lent by Museum Committee]
HASTINGS CASTLE, 1800.—THE GUN GARDEN, SHEWING THE
LIME KILNS AND THE CONDEMNED HOLE ON THE BEACH
NEAR BEACH COTTAGES.

NOTES ON THE MAP OF HASTINGS.—Page 16.

The map reproduced on the opposite page, was used by the late Mr. Cole to illustrate his theory and contention that a Roman Settlement existed on or near the site of our town, and that the submerged town was some distance south of White Rock, and west of the Castle and Priory. By following the key, the reader will be able to locate the churches and other places known to have existed, but long since disappeared, through inundation of the sea and other causes. The Churches dedicated to St. Leonard, St. Margaret, and St. Michael, mentioned in Pope Nicholas' Register, together with the Hospital of St. Mary Magdalen are shown west of the Priory and Haven; the Church of St. Andrew and the Collegiate Chapel of St. Mary-in-the Castle, East of the Priory and Haven; and St. George's on the East Hill, of which all traces, I believe, have disappeared, while the ruins of others have been brought to light in comparatively modern times. All Saints and St. Clement's Churches still remain in the Bourne Valley. The number of Churches would point to the former existence of a considerable community within what is now the western part of modern Hastings. The old Churches of St. Leonard, St. Margaret, and St. Michael, are mentioned by the Bishop of Chichester in his register 1440, as "having suffered from the depredations of the sea in the last hundred years, and they had no longer any churches." St. Leonards Church is said by Mr. Durrant Cooper to have stood upon the site of the Wesleyan Church, Norman Road, St. Leonards. The late Alderman Robert Deudney remembered that in removing some of the cliff at the rear of 50, Eversfield Place, the ruins of St. Margaret's Church were discovered. Some of the ruins of St. Michael's Church were found upon the site of the Coastguard Station above Claremont, when the cliffs were removed for building operations, about 1834. — (*Horsfield's Sussex, Vol. I., p. 543.*) St. Andrew's Church is called in Pope Nicholas' Register, "S. Andrew *before* the Castle." The word *before* may have some significance, as the site of this was in close proximity to the drawbridge of the castle, on the north-west side, or in front of the entrance, and near the site of the present Castle-Down Terrace. Horsfield, p. 452, says:— "The ruins of St. Andrew's Church stood within 15 years (1819). The site was sold and desecrated to building purposes, in violation of the dead, and the patronage of the rectory, although vested in the Corporation by royal grant, and confirmed by Act of Parliament." St. George's Church. — This Church marked on the map on the East Hill, is not reported in the register of Pope Nicholas, 1291, or the Chichester Register. The late Mr. Thomas Ross said:—

"I have seen a map of Sussex in Chichester Cathedral, of ancient date, on which was depicted a tower. I obtained the permission of the Countess Waldegrave and her tenant, Mr. Waters, to make excavations on the East Hill. The building appears to have stood east and west, if I may judge by a wall opened up by me for about one hundred feet, which terminated at the western end in an angular bend towards the cliff. I cut trenches across the Hill within the wall, and came upon a cist or coffin of Caen stone.

. Also several bodies, very perfect, on layers of charcoal, and some iron rivets and large headed nails. . . .

I am sorry to say I was disappointed not having found anything to throw light upon the probable date of the wall, etc.," *Suss. Arch. Coll.*, vol. IX., p. 366. It is to be noted that Ross makes no mention of a church. Dawson, in his *History of Hastings Castle*, briefly refers to Ross's remarks, and ventures the opinion "that from the discovery of human skeletons, there might have been a 13th century cemetery there." *Hersfield's Sussex*, vol. I., p. 452, states: "There is an old burying ground still partly enclosed (1834), but used only as a grazing ground, on the top of the East Hill, in All Saints' Parish. It is called St. George's for which I have had no satisfactory reason or authority given, and am further at a loss to assign a name to it, as the small decay benefices already recited were all on the western side of the town." From old deeds of 1713 I have had the opportunity of perusing. it is clear the East Hill was known and commonly mentioned in some of these deeds of the 17th and 18th centuries as St. George's Hill. Although Horsfield confesses ignorance as to the origin of the old burial ground discovered there, the best account is given by T. H. Cole, *Antiquities of Hastings*, 1884, p. 143: — "The enclosure (on East Hill) is far too small to be a (Roman) Camp; it is, in fact, the churchyard of the ancient and forgotten Church once dedicated to St. George, the whole Hill having been known as St. George's, and the right of way to the Hill being due to its having been on the high road to the Church, and should be religiously preserved. As late as 1579, we read that Thomas Lam had one messuage called St. George's, and lands and tenements, amounting to 60 acres, called St. George's Hill, in the port of Hastings, worth £20 a year. Mr. Rainolds, the Town Clerk, paid nine shillings a year for St. George's Hill, in 1656. The enclosure now used as a garden is attached to the living of All Saints, and on its southern side a few stones in a portion of the wall still commemorate the precise site of the Church; near the extreme western point of the East Hill once stood an ancient round tower or Pharos. When that fell into decay the Tower of St. George's would form an admirable sea mark for mariners making for Hastings Harbour. The Church seems to have been destroyed with the rest of the town by the French in 1378, and never rebuilt." One of the librarians of the British Museum has expressed his opinion that Cole's account is the best he could find.— Letter from British Museum, April 18th, 1901.

KEY TO THE MAP.

- No. 1. All Saints' Church.
- No. 2. Court House (mentioned as the prison erected by the Abbot of Fecamp), giving the name to Courthouse Street, stood on the present site of the Police and Fire Station at the bottom of Courthouse Street, and facing Bourne Street.
- No. 3. Hospital Chapel.—St. Mary Magdalen Hospital Chapel, a view of the ruins of which is shown elsewhere, and formerly stood near De Cham Avenue.
- No. 4. Hundred. Or the Hundred Place. The site of this is shown in the Corporation Map of 1746. It was an open place with an entrance in High Street, near Mr. Stanger's Shop (No. 57) and Winding Street or Lane, where the election of M.P.'s, Mayors and Jurats, was carried out for centuries. (See Moss's guide, 1824.)
- No. 5. Lady's Parlour. Part of the Castle Ward outside the walls and the inner ditch or trench.
- No. 6. Warrior's Gate. Norman Road, near the site of the present Warrior's Gate Hotel, so called as having some connection with the assembly of warriors before the Battle of Hastings.
- No. 7. Priory. On the banks of the old Haven. The Priory of the Holy Trinity which existed in the 12th Century, 1191 (Richard I.) and destroyed by the sea about 1430.
- No. 8. The Watergate. This stood at the north end of Bourne Street, and is more fully described in connection with the Bourne Stream and Bourne Street and the remains are there shewn.
- No. 9. The College. This refers to the College and Chapel of St. Mary-in-the-Castle within the Castle Walls.
- No. 10. Roman Iron Works. On the Banks of the old Haven. The site would seem to correspond with that of part of the Alexandra Park, near the Spa Gate, as some distance above it is shown the tributary stream running through Pond Bay Bridge, Ore Lane.
- No. 11. Embankments. Off White Rock spoken of in connection with the submerged town.
- No. 12. Town Wall and Towers. The Old Town was formerly walled in from the East End of George Street to the bottom of All Saints' Street and the Towers are shewn in the Map.
- No. 13. Watershed between the Bourne and Priory Valleys. The Market Cross, Gensing Manor, Ore Manor, Old Roar, Hole Farm. The Old Pier (Elizabeth's Reign), Roman Camp, and Pharos (or lighthouse) are also shown. The Haven, which Mr. T. H. Cole claims to be the *Portus Novus* (or new Port) of the Romans. This Haven is

also shewn in the Corporation Map of 1746. John of Gaunt's House (1380), Lord of the Rape of Hastings (Edwd. III.). He is said to have occupied a Religious House at a spot near Ore Place. The three rivers or streams, namely: The Asten, at Bulverhythe, The Priory Brook, sometimes called Old Roar Stream, and the Bourne Stream, are shown; the two latter as running into the Sea at the site of the Elizabethan Pier.*

HASTINGS CASTLE.

This view of the old Castle has been chosen as the earliest one at my disposal, and lent by the Museum Committee. It was presented to the Museum by Miss Wood, of St. Leonards, and shows the projecting position of the Cliff called "Gun Garden," now destroyed, and now represented by Castle Gardens and Castle Street, and possibly Caroline Place. The rough road from the suburbs (now George Street) to the Priory. The old building on the right is believed to be The Condemned Hole, at the back of Beach Terrace, where smuggling craft captured by the Preventive Service were taken and destroyed. The buildings on the left are Lime Kilns which were owned by the Breeds family, and marks the site of part of the east side of Wellington Square and Castle Hill Road. The field now used as the Garden in Wellington Square was called the Priory Field. Several views of this locality are shown. Mr. Charles Dawson on the Frontispiece of his *History of Hastings Castle* gives an earlier view of the Castle dated 1750, taken from the same locality, showing the Gun Garden, and the remains of the ancient Harbour, and what would appear to be the Priory Water, but without the Lime Kilns, which probably did not then exist. Mr. Dawson has suggested to me that I should include in this work a copy of the descriptive tablets he has so thoughtfully placed upon the ruins of the Castle, which are a great assistance to Antiquarians and the public visiting the Castle, and I append them here. On approaching the entrance and just before reaching the gates on the left hand is:—

- No. 1. Site of the Drawbridge over the Moat now filled up. And Barbican Gate.
- No. 2. Site of Eastern Tower of Gateway, with entrance to Dungeon, on left of present entrance gate, outside it.
- No. 3. Site of Main Gatehouse, probably towered on each side. Foundations remain.
- No. 4. Hastings Castle—"Haestinga—Caester" of the Anglo-Saxons).

[A General Description.]

Dismantled by Harold, 1066.

*The piles of the Elizabethan Pier which were visible for centuries opposite East Parade are now covered by the beach and may never be seen again.

Restored by William I., 1066.

Considerably added to, and Keep built by Henry II., 1172.

Restored by Henry III., 1225.

Ruined by neglect and by the sea after 14th and 15th Centuries.

There was an inner and outer dry Moat running around the Castle, except, perhaps, on the sea side; also an inner and outer Ward, the latter being on the east side of the Castle, separated from it by the inner Moat.

No. 5. Carved Stones discovered among the ruins of the Church.

No. 6. The Collegiate Church, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary (in and after the time of Edward I., known as the Royal Free Chapel).

Built by Robert, Count of Eu, 1070.

Burnt 1216. Rebuilt 1225.

Fell into decay in the 15th and 16th centuries.

Dissolved and finally ruined, 1547.

No. 7. Chancel Arch, date 1225.

No. 8. Choir of Collegiate Church.

No. 9. Second Chancel Arch. Foundation alone remains.

No. 10. Chancel of Collegiate Church.

No. 11. Site of Central Tower with spire. Stairway to the Turret.

No. 12. Sedelia. (Seats for the Canons officiating at the Altar.)

No. 13. Mural Arcade. (Seats for the Canons.)

No. 14. Nave of Collegiate Church. (Part of the Wall rebuilt 1824).

No. 15. Pillar Piscina. (Or Holy Water Stoup).

No. 16. Site of Font.

No. 17. Narthex, or Vestibule, with chambers for reception of Pilgrims.

No. 18. Sally Port. (Entrance on outside now blocked.)

No. 19. North-west Tower of Church.

No. 20. Site of Dean and Canon's Houses.

No. 21. Portion of Rampart Walk on the Wall.

No. 22. Traces of Machiollation. [Openings for pouring boiling lead, etc., upon the enemy.]

No. 23. Site of South West Tower of Church. (The Castle formerly extended further south, and this portion was destroyed by the sea, chiefly in the 14th and 15th Centuries.)

No. 24. Site of the Norman Keep (Rectangular) built by Henry II., 1172.

No. 25. Eastern Curtain of the Wall of Castle. (Built by Henry III., 1225.)

No. 26. The South or Watch Tower. (Remains of window slits.)

No. 27. Mural Passage—(commencing South Tower and Gateway.)

No. 28. Remains of Gateway Towers, with Portcullis. (A Wooden Bridge was built over the inner Moat from the inner Ward to the outer Ward, 1225.)

- No. 29. The Castle Mount. Site of the Anglo-Saxon or the earlier Norman Keep. (This Mound is probably that shown in the Bayeaux Tapestry.)

By keeping to the right on entering the gate the visitor should have no difficulty, in the absence of a guide, in identifying the portions of the ruins described on these tablets, and will find the pleasure of his visit enhanced by studying them.

- No. 30. The outer earthwork, commonly known as "The Lady's Parlour," divided from the Castle Ramparts by the inner Moat, and formerly reached by a bridge over the moat on the North Eastern Side (see No. 28).

A.D. CHIEF EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF THE CASTLE.

924. Athelstan established a Mint—probably within the Saxon fortress.
1066. Dismantled by Harold.
1066. Restored by William I.
1070. The Collegiate Church in the Castle established by Robert, Count of Eu.
- 1087-9. William II. held his Court in the Castle.
1094. Rufus and Archbishop Anselm at the Castle.
1155. Thomas à Becket appointed Dean of the King's Free Chapel in the Castle.
1172. Henry II. made extensive additions and built the Keep.
1216. Largely destroyed by King John during his troublous reign.
1225. Castle restored by Henry III.
1320. Priests of the Church of St. Mary-in-the-Castle denounced for gross immorality.
1330. Decay of the Royal Free Chapel. Grants for repair. Ed. III.
1337. Chapel further decayed. French capture the Castle and plunder it.
1342. Hastings Rape and Castle granted to John of Gaunt.
1377. Town of Hastings burnt—Richard II. Castle exempt from repair.
1410. Henry IV. Further decay of Chapel. Canons and Vicars rebuked for neglect.
1412. Rape of Hastings granted to Sir John Pelham.
1428. Rape of Hastings forfeited by Sir John Pelham.
1446. Rape granted to Sir Thomas Hoo, a descendant from Eu family.
1448. Hoo created Lord Hastings with the Honour of Hastings and Castle.
1547. Finally ruined and Church dissolved. During the 14th and 15th Centuries the Castle was ruined by neglect and the ravages of the Sea.
1591. The Honour of the Castle purchased by Sir Thomas Pelham, whose descendant, the Earl of Chichester, is still the owner.



[Lent by Dr. G. Vickerman Hewland.]

INTERIOR OF HASTINGS CASTLE—THE CHAPEL—1836.



[Lent by T. Foster.]

HASTINGS CASTLE BY J. NOXIN, 1800.

THE CINQUE PORTS.

“The five great ports on the Coast of Sussex and Kent lying opposite to France—Hastings, Dover, Hythe, Sandwich, and Romney—were of considerable importance during the Anglo-Saxon period ; and in a charter of Edward I. we find a reference to a previous document granted them by Edward the Confessor. But it was subsequent to the Battle of Hastings that the Conqueror, in order that he might wield the resources of the seaports with greater vigour, constituted this whole line of coast into a jurisdiction entirely separate from the counties of Sussex and Kent, and erected it into a sort of County palatine, under a Warden or Guardian, the seat of whose administration was at Dover Castle. The Warden, whose office corresponded to that of the ancient Count of the Saxon Coast, exercised jurisdiction, civil, military, and naval, uniting in his single person the functions of sheriff, *custos rotulorum*, lord-lieutenant, and admiral. Privileges equal to those originally bestowed on the Cinque Ports were subsequently extended to the so-called *ancient towns* of Winchelsea and Rye ; and all the seven municipal towns except Winchelsea had subordinate ports and towns attached to them, which were called *limbs* or *members*. In place of the Saxon terms of *aldermen* and *freemen*, those of *jurats* and *barons* were introduced, and the latter term has always been applied to the representatives of the Cinque Ports in Parliament. Their chief function in early times was to furnish such shipping as was required for the purposes of the State, the Crown having possessed no permanent navy previous to the reign of Henry VII. In the time of Edward I. they were bound to provide no less than fifty-seven ships, fully equipped and manned at their cost limited to fifteen days, and if extended beyond fifteen days, then after at the cost of the Crown. The ports in return for their services enjoyed many privileges, such as exemptions from tax and tallage, the right to make their own by-laws, etc., and curious rights over the affairs of Yarmouth during the great herring fair which lasted forty days. In consequence of the warlike navy which they were thus compelled to maintain, the Cinque Ports became so confident and audacious as not only to undertake piratical expeditions, but even to make war and form confederacies as independent states. Previous to the Revolution of 1688 (James II.) the lord-wardens nominated one and sometimes both of the parliamentary representatives for each of the Cinque Ports ; but in 1689 (William III.) an Act was passed to ‘declare the right and freedom of election of members to serve in Parliament for the Cinque Ports.’ The Acts of 1832 and 1885 reduced the number of members sent to Parliament by the Cinque

Ports from sixteen to three, and the Municipal Reform Act has broken up the ancient organisation of the ports, and assimilated their internal arrangements to those of other English Municipalities. The ancient Courts of Shepway and Brotherhood and Guestling are still occasionally held, but their powers scarcely extend beyond matters of form. The Lord Warden's jurisdiction, in relation to civil suits and proceedings, was abolished in 1835. His official residence is Walmer Castle, a structure of Henry VIII.'s time, and here, as Warden, the Duke of Wellington lived every autumn from 1829 till his death there in 1852." *Chambers' Ency.* Ref. *Burrows' Cinque Ports* (1888).

In dealing with "Hastings of By-gone Days" it is proper that we should hear what the earlier chroniclers have to say of this ancient community which have contributed so much to our maritime supremacy and formed the cradle of those adventurous mariners of Hastings, and a race of hardy fishermen who place their services at the disposal of King and country whenever needed and called upon.

"From its earliest recorded history a hardy and daring race of mariners hailed from the Port of Hastings." *Saxon Chronicle*, 1050.

"A little before that, the men of 'Hastinga-Ceastre' and thereabouts, won two of his (Sweyn's) ships with their ships, and slew all the men, and brought the ships to Sandwich to the King." In this account we find the first mention of the mariners of Hastings as a distinct body in the King's service.—*Dawson*.

Jeake's *Charters of the Cinque Ports* is the recognised authority on this subject, and from which the following extracts are taken. The author, Samuel Jeake, senior, was born at Rye in 1623, was Town Clerk for eleven years; he lived in Mermaid Street, his house is preserved, and a tablet is placed upon it.

In his book the following appears:—"Advertisement.—This Book was wrote in 1678, and had then the Approbation of the Lord Chief Justice North; but the Author soon after dying, it was not printed, and perhaps never had been, if the late Lord Chief Baron Gilbert had not seen the MSS. and thought it would be useful to the World. No considerable alterations have happened in the Limits of the Ports since that time, except the Incorporation of Deal." It was published in 1728. The original in Latin, is translated into English, and the two are set side by side.

"The records, charters, and proceedings of the *Cinque Ports* are kept at New Romney, in a book called the Black Book, access to which is somewhat difficult. From this Jeake drew his materials for his very elaborate and valuable History of the Cinque Ports, written in the early part of the last century, a very scarce tract at this time, and rarely, indeed, now to be met with."—*Moss*, 1824.

The Mariners of Hastings are again mentioned by *Henry of Huntingdon*, 1088—"When the Duke Robert of Normandy (elder brother of William II.) was preparing a powerful army in Normandy

for the invasion of England, sent on a vanguard to the support of Odo at Pevensey. But the English who guarded the sea, amongst the chief of whom we may reckon the Hastings Buscarls (crews of the Busses or Transports) attacked the fleet of this advanced force, and an immense number of the enemy were either put to the sword or drowned.”—*Dawson*.

The following is an extract from the Charter of Edward I. “*Edward*, by the Grace of God, etc., greeting. We have seen a certain Certificate before us, into the Chancery by the Treasurer, the Barons of our Exchequer, at our command late sent, specifying the Royal Services yearly due, from the *Cinque Ports*, with their members, if need be, among other things, in these words, etc” . . . “Hastings is an head Port, whose members are, viz., Winchelsea, Rye, the Lowey of Pevensey, and Bulverhythe, in the County of Sussex, Beaksborne, and Grenvele, in the County of Kent; which Port, with its members aforesaid, ought to find twenty and one ships, and in every ship there ought to be twenty and one men, strong, apt, well-armed, and prepared for the services of the King; so that the summons thereof be made of the part of the King 40 days before. And when the said ships and men in them being, shall come to the place to which they were summoned, they shall tarry there in the service of our Lord the King by 15 daies, at their own costs; and if the King shall need their services after the aforesaid 15 daies, or will them there to tarry, the ships, with the men in them, being in the service of the King, shall be abiding at the costs of the King, as long as it shall please the King, viz., The Master shall take sixpence per day, and the Constable six pence per day, and everyone of the others shall take three pence per day.” . . . Kent: Romney, the Head Port, Old Romney and Lydde, members of the same, shall find to the King five ships in form aforesaid. The Port of Hithe ought to find the King five ships in form aforesaid. Dover is an Head Port; whose members are, viz., Faversham, Folkestone, and Margate, and the Port ought to find Twenty and one Ships. Sandwich is an Head Port, whose members are Fordwich, Stonor, and Sarre, which with its members ought to find Five Ships in form aforesaid. The sum of the service of the Cinque Ports, 57 ships. And as to the Service in the Coronation, etc., it is contained in the same Booke thus: In the 20 yeare, of King Henry, son of King John, Queen Elianor, the daughter of Hugh, Earl of Provence being crowned at Westminster on Sunday before the purification of the Blessed Maric, among other things it is found thus: And a cloth foure square of purple silke by foure Staves Silvered over, borne up with foure little bells silver and gilt, over the King, going whither he would, did the Barons of the Cinque Ports assigned beare; at every Staffe Foure, according to the diversity of the Ports, lest Port should be preferred to Port. Likewise the same, a Silke Cloth over the Queene going after the King; which said clothes they did claime to be theirs of right and obtained them in Court.

... "And the Barons of the Cinque Ports affirmed their Right of sitting at the King's Table the same day, at the right hand of our Lord the King and so they sate. . . . These are the services which the Barons of the Cinque Ports owe to our Lord the King."

"Of these affairs, one of the principal was to receive the report of the Bailiff sent to Yarmouth and Dunwich in Norfolk and Suffolk every year at the time of the great Herring Fair, during the forty days of which the Cinque Ports claimed to have a jurisdiction superseding the local authorities. This privilege, like many another, seems to have survived the time in which it was needed, and to have become a burden and source of strife. Jeake gives the following account of its origin:—"Hither" (to Yarmouth) "resort the fishermen of the ports, and other sea towns, every year in the fishing season, for herrings, who, by a wonderful and rare Providence, having their constant course once a year round this island, about the Autumnal Equinox, begin to keep their quarters on these coasts. And, to repress and prevent disorders arising among the multitude upon the sale and delivery of the herrings brought ashore there, for want of a settled government in that town, or, as hereafter noted, for want of a town built, the Ports used to send thither yearly, certain men as their bailiffs, that, during the time of this Herring Fair, they might abide there, and govern all the fishing season." When, however, the town of Yarmouth sprang up, and had a magistracy of its own, they naturally disliked any interference with their government, and hence arose constant collisions which issued on one occasion in the murder of one of the Ports' Bailiffs, by a bailiff of Yarmouth, for which the execution of the homicide, Yarmouth had to pay a yearly tribute of herrings, or its equivalent in money. In 1858 the late Alderman T. Ross extracted from the Records of Hastings and published an interesting tract on this subject from which is taken the following:—"At what time bailiffs were first sent to Yarmouth from the Cinque Ports is not known. *Manship*, the historian of Yarmouth, 1619, says 'it is in my opinion very clear, that from the landing of *Cerdicus* in anno 495, now 1124 years past, the sand by defluxion of tides by little and little lift his head above waters, and in so short time after sundry fishermen, as well as this kingdom, viz., the five ports (being then the principal fishermen of England) resorted thither, where they continued in tents made for the purpose, by the space of forty days.' "Edward the Confessor granted in his Charter to the Cinque Ports the right of Strond and Denne (right to land and sell, and to dry their nets on the land called Dennes) at Yarmouth, which right appears to have been infringed by Robt. Leasinge, Bishop of Norwich, who, in 1101, built a small chapel in the Dean or Dozone of Yarmouth, then being sand. But the very next year after the same was finished, the barons of the five ports coming thither, as usually they did, to fish there, they being then (as hath been before declared) the principal fishermen of England, did bring their priest with them,

who did remove, expel, and evil entreat the bishop's priest, there formerly placed, etc.'" "This is the earliest account we have of the quarrels and jealousies that ever after existed between the men of the Ports and the men of Yarmouth, at times arising to a fearful height, as in 1296, when Edward I. passing into Flanders to aid the Earl against the French, was no sooner at land, but that through an old grudge betwixt the Portsmen and Yarmouth, they fell together and fought on the water in such earnest (notwithstanding the King commanded the contrary) that twenty-five ships of Yarmouth, and their partakers, were burned by the men of the Ports.'" *Manship* says that they killed 171 men, and destroyed goods to the value of £45,360. "The number of bailiffs sent to Yarmouth in 1285, was ten (Laurence de Wintongers represented Hastings) which number was continued until 1347. In 1361 four only were commissioned by all the Ports, from Hastings, Winchelsea, Rye, and Romney. The number continued to vary until 1555, when four were returned, and the year following three; after which period the return was two bailiffs only, one to represent the West or Sussex Ports, Hastings, Winchelsea, Rye, the other, the East or Kent Ports, which number continued up to 1662, when the Ports ceased to send bailiffs to Yarmouth. The ceremony of their appointment is described in the old record called the Black Book, kept at New Romney.'" Jeake gives a very full description of this ancient privilege in the work, but sufficient has been recorded here to prove the importance of the powers granted to the five Cinque Ports and gives us an insight into the position held by Hastings of Bygone Days.

TYPES OF ANCIENT SHIPS.

Jeake says, "Of the sort of ships, their build, their rig or tonnage little or no information is given to guide us, but the impress of the Seals of the Cinque Ports may afford some idea. For centuries their services were called into action for guarding the narrow seas from pirates infesting the coasts. King John (1215) in his retirement in the Isle of Wight was almost forsaken of all his kingdom (after the Magna Charta was signed), save by the ships and mariners of the Cinque Ports which assisted him to recover all he had lost."

In Henry III. (1217), the ports armed forty ships under the command of Sir Hubert de Burgh, then Warden of the Ports, against Louis the French King's son, and utterly defeated the French Commander.

In Edward I. (1293-4) one hundred sail of the Ports Navy fought at sea a great French fleet, and although the enemy outnumbered them, they slew, took, and sunk so many that for a long time after the French ceased troubling.

In Edward III. (1336) the Navy of the Ports, together with other vessels under Geffery de Say, hindered the bringing of succour from foreign parts to the King's enemies in Scotland.



Viking Ship Co. Ltd.

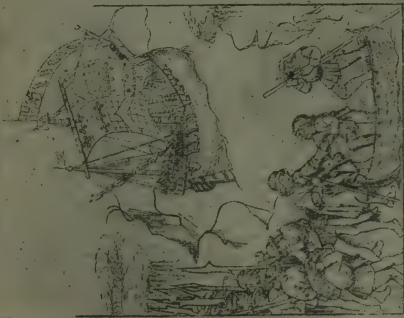
Norman Smith 1066



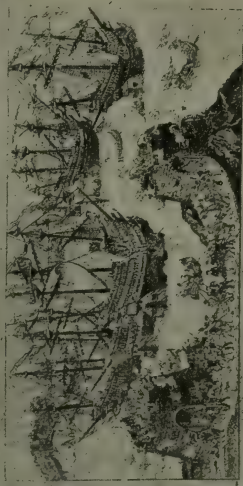
Double-keeled Ship of the
Middle Ages still Surviving
in Norway, in the Godfisheries. See Model.



Compare with Corollary 5.1



Available from the U.S. National Bureau of Standards
NBS Monograph No. 10



The embankment is 11 m high, $\rho_{\text{soil}} = 1.75 \text{ t/m}^3$, $\rho_{\text{water}} = 1.0 \text{ t/m}^3$, $\rho_{\text{air}} = 0.0012 \text{ t/m}^3$.

To illustrate Shipping of the CINQUE PORTS.

THE TYPES OF SHIPS OF THE ANCIENT CINQUE PORTS.

Lent by the Museum Committee.

In Edward IV. (1475) the Cinque Ports Navy attended in the Downs for transporting the King and his army into France, embarking at Sandwich, and in 1491 (Henry VII.) found them engaged in a similar service, and brought the army back in the following year.

In Henry VIII. (1513) the Ports Navy carried the King's army from Sandwich and Dover into France, and again in 1542 and 1544.

In Elizabeth (1588) the Ports at her command set out five serviceable ships and a pinnace for her Majesty's service for two months, but they served four months at their own costs. These ships were of 160 tons each, and were engaged against the Spanish Armada. It will be seen the ships were larger in this reign, and great strides had been made in their construction and in naval enterprise. The Portuguese had succeeded in rounding the Cape of Good Hope and the passage to the East Indies, and Columbus had discovered America. However, it must be borne in mind that previously to the reign of Henry VII. there was no state navy, the ships of the Cinque Ports constituted the principal one, and these together with others from different ports were in those early times found sufficient for the defence of the Kingdom. In the reign of Henry VIII. the Royal Navy consisted of about fourteen *large* ships, measuring from 150 to 180 tons each. Queen Elizabeth so increased her navy that she deservedly acquired the title of "Restorer of Naval Power and Sovereign of the Northern Seas." The use of cannon, too, was now introduced, supplied probably from the Sussex and Kentish iron foundries.

It does not appear that any war ship was fitted out by the Ports after the reign of Charles I. (1626), for when Jeake in his diary tells us "that on July 4th, 1690, the English fleet passed by Rye in sight of the town moving towards the Downs before the French who were not yet come in sight," he makes no mention of any ships coming from these Ports. The last sea service performed by the Ports, by virtue of their charters, was during the last war some time between 1793 and 1814, when there was a draught made of seamen to serve in the navy" (Holloway's *Rye*, p. 63). On a careful survey being made of the different sea services enumerated by writers on the History of the Cinque Ports it will be found that their ships and navies were engaged in the most important events of our history, and up to the period when the advance in the building of larger ships and in naval construction, when their services began to decline. What changes in the construction of war ships the present generation have seen in a century is aptly described in a "Word Picture," by W. H. Fitchitt, LL.D., in writing a description of the Naval Review of King George's Coronation at Spithead, June 24th, 1911. "And here are the Dreadnoughts—ships of new type in war. Any one of them, as far as fighting power is concerned, *could have 'taken on' both the fleets that contended at Trafalgar*, have sailed through them without suffering harm, and overtaken and sunk every ship in the two fleets at pleasure."

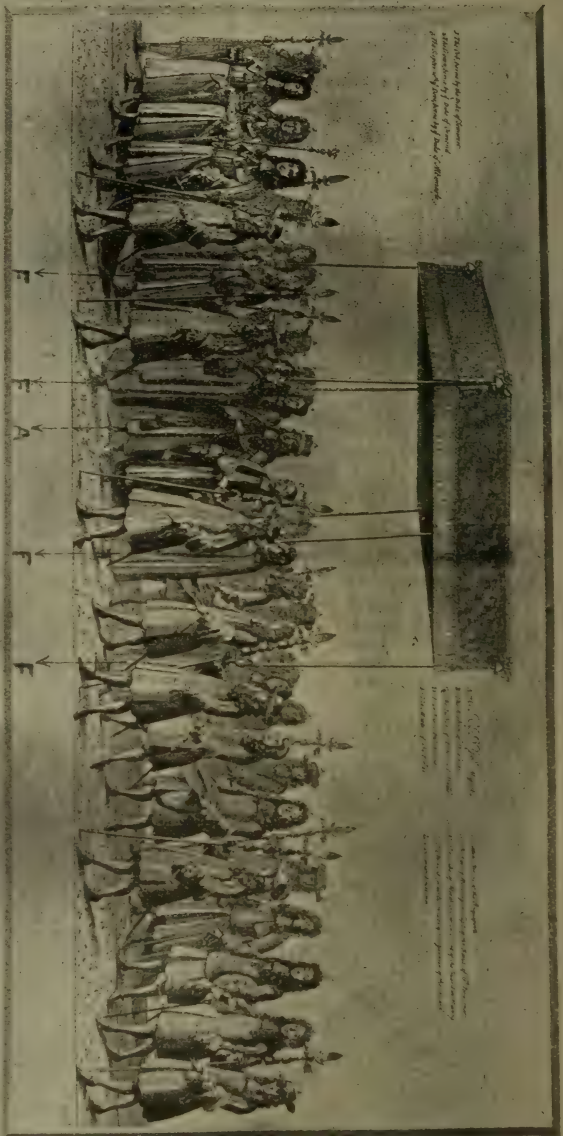
THE RIGHTS OF THE BARONS TO ATTEND CORONATIONS.

Having dealt with the history of the Cinque Ports from the earliest recorded times to the period when their services became less urgent, and until they were dispensed with altogether, their attendances at Coronations of the Sovereigns was a privilege greatly coveted, and in earlier times of which we have records was generally allotted to the highest in authority or social position in the Ports, Members of Parliament, or Mayors. Quaint accounts of the Coronation proceedings are related in the "Collier Letters." Those representing Hastings and were Canopy-Bearers at the Coronation of George II. and Queen Caroline (1727) were—Over the King :—Sir William Ashburnham, of Broomham, M.P. ; Thomas Pelham, Esquire, M.P., of Stanmer ; and Edward Dyne, Esquire (Mayor 1726-7). Over the Queen :—The Hon. Thomas Townsend, Esquire, M.P. ; James Pelham, Esquire, M.P. (M.P., 1741) ; and John Collier, Esquire. The attendance of these Barons was the occasion of the presentation of the large silver Punch Bowl to the Corporation, made from their shares of the silver from their canopies and now in the Hastings Museum. At the Coronation of George III. and Queen Charlotte, 1761, the Canopy Bearers were—Over the King :—Edward Milward, Esquire (Mayor) ; Sir William Ashburnham, M.P. ; and James Pelham, Esquire. Over the Queen :—Rose Fuller, Esquire ; Luke Spencer, Esquire ; and Richard Ridout, Esquire.

These were elected by the Mayor, Jurats, and Commonalty at Common Hall. Those elected provided their own robes, besides "a handsome treat given at the time of their election of twenty guineas."

The Barons, for reasons I am unable to state, did not attend the Coronations of either William IV. or Queen Victoria. Their claim, however, was made for their attendance at the Coronation of King Edward VII. and Queen Alexandra, when the good offices of the Duke of Norfolk, the Earl Marshall, supported by Lord George Hamilton, were sought. A meeting assembled in Court of Brotherhood and Guestling to draw up their claim, which had been carefully prepared by Mr. Inderwick, K.C., and Sir Wollaston Knocker. This meeting took place at the Premier Cinque Port of Hastings, and the following is a copy presented to the Court of Claims, when their Petition was graciously granted.—

"To the Right Honourable the Commissioners of our Lord King Edward VII., appointed to receive, hear, and determine the petitions and claims of all persons concerning services to be done or performed by them at the ensuing Coronation of their Majesties.



This engraving is the first
representation of the presentation
of the 16 enslaved men to the Duke of Devonshire.

The Duke of Devonshire, 1789.
The Duke of Devonshire, 1789.
The Duke of Devonshire, 1789.
The Duke of Devonshire, 1789.

A. C. Updornie in the Duke of Devonshire.
The Duke of Devonshire, 1789.
The Duke of Devonshire, 1789.
The Duke of Devonshire, 1789.

Placed from point at the English Museum
in "Savoy's" presentation of James II.
Note the cloth of gold canopy, the Duke of Devonshire at his
side and the silver chain carried by 10 persons in the background.

A. C. Updornie in the Duke of Devonshire.
The Duke of Devonshire, 1789.
The Duke of Devonshire, 1789.
The Duke of Devonshire, 1789.

THOSE MARKED F ARE THE 16 BARONS OF THE CINQUE PORTS.

Test by the Museum Committee.

“The Petition of the Barons of the Cinque Ports sheweth :

“1.—That your petitioners represent the Mayors, Aldermen, Jurats, Freemen, and burgesses of the Five Ports, to wit, Hastings, New Romney, Hythe, Dover, and Sandwich, and the two Antient Towns of Rye and Winchelsea, together with the Limbs and Members of the same Ports and Towns, to wit, the Corporate Towns of Deal, Faversham, Folkestone, Lydd, Margate, and Ramsgate, assembled in Court of Brotherhood and Guestling, at the Antient Town and Port of Hastings.

“2.—That the area subject to the jurisdiction of the said Ports and Towns also includes sundry Non-corporate Members or Limbs, is situate principally along the coasts of Kent and Sussex and is commensurate with that formerly commanded by the Court of the Saxon Shore, and that the population thereof is at the present day about 200,000 souls.

“3.—That this district constitutes what has ever been known as the Gates of the Kingdom, being that portion of His Majesty’s territory which has always been selected as the most available for invasion. That every hostile landing upon the soil of this country, whether by Romans, Danes, or Normans, was within the limits of the Cinque Ports, and that during the time of Napoleon I., and even during that of Napoleon III., the coast of Kent or Sussex was indicated as the spot likely to be attempted.

“4.—That from the time of His Majesty’s ancestor, King Edward the Confessor, for many centuries, the Cinque Ports formed the nucleus of the King’s offensive and defensive power. Their ships and sailors guarded his coasts, and accompanied him in his foreign wars, and the Ports were liable to, and did, find both ships and men when the safety of the country required their aid. That the Barons of the Cinque Ports thus became, and have ever been, regarded as the founders of the King’s Navy, and in recognition of services thus rendered to them and their ancestors the Kings and Queens of this realm have at their Coronation required of the Barons certain duties, and conferred upon them certain rights.

“5.—That at the Coronation of the Kings of England and Queens Consort, the said Barons were, from time immemorial, accustomed to carry over the head of every of the said Kings and Queens a cloth, called a canopy, of gold or purple silk, borne upon four lances or staves, ornamented with silver-gilt bells; that sixteen of the said Barons were appointed to each King’s canopy, and that a similar canopy was borne over the head of the Queen Consort by other sixteen Barons of the said Ports. That the said Barons were accustomed to have and take the said canopy or canopies, staves and bells, for their own use, and to dine, on the day of the Coronation, at a table in the Great Hall (where the King or Queen was accustomed to dine), at the right hand of the King or Queen.

“6.—That the said Barons, in pursuance of their right of personal attendance upon the Sovereign at his Coronation have, from time immemorial, armed and in their liveries, met him as he came forth of his chamber in the Palace of Westminster, and conducted him under their canopy from the said hall to Westminster

BARONS OF THE CINQUE PORTS IN THEIR ROBES.



Photo by A. R. Perry, by permission.

ALDERMAN FREDERICK ADOLPHUS LANGHAM, J.P.
(Ex-Mayor of Hastings).

Abbey, and in the Abbey through the nave as far as the entrance to the choir, where the said Barons remained until the conclusion of the service in the choir.

“7.—That when the King came forth of the Choir the said Barons conducted him under the said canopy down the nave and back to the Hall, where they quitted His Majesty at the foot of the steps leading to the raised platform upon which the Royal tables were set.

“8.—That His Majesty having been pleased by His Royal Proclamation to dispense with the rights or services connected with the ceremonial heretofore performed in Westminster Hall, and with the Procession in which the Kings and Queens of this country have for many generations been wont to take part, your petitioners are deprived of the honour and privilege of bearing



Photo by F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

[by permission.]

ALDERMAN ROBERT WILLIAM MITCHELL, M.A., J.P.

(Mayor of Hastings 1910-11).

(The Mayor in his Robes as a Baron of the Cinque Ports is the central figure, behind him is the Deputy-Mayor (Councillor E. H. Harden), in his robes, followed by the Corporation, marching to Christ Church, St. Leonards, attended by the Mace Bearers, and the Town Crier with his staff)

the said canopies over their Majesties, and of thus performing the most important function incident to their personal attendance upon the King and His Royal Consort.

“9.—Your petitioners, however, humbly pray that His Majesty will be graciously pleased to take into consideration their former great services to the Kings and Queens of this country, and to assign to your petitioners, as such Barons as aforesaid, or to such

of them as may be thought convenient, a station within the Abbey, where they may remain, as of old, in attendance upon the King and Queen, and that in all other respects their antient rights and privileges at Coronations of Kings and Queens of this country may remain undisturbed.

“And your petitioners will ever pray, etc.

“(Signed), SALISBURY,

“Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports.

“(Countersigned) WOLLASTON KNOCKER,

“Solicitor of the Ports.

“28th October, 1901.”

Alderman Frederick Adolphus Langham, the Mayor of Hastings, was chosen by the Corporation to represent the Premier Cinque Port of Hastings and whose portrait in the magnificent robes of a Baron is here given.

The Coronation proceedings to celebrate the event were carried out at Hastings with the greatest possible signs of rejoicing. The poor and the school children were regaled and amusement provided for their pleasure, old English sports and pastimes were indulged in at the Fishmarket and Bohemia, the Volunteer Forces of all arms, with their guns, the Coastguards, Naval Brigade, Boys' Brigade, Cadets from several of the private schools, the Scout Boys, Salvation Army, Friendly Societies, and other organisations joined in a grand procession through the streets to the West Hill, where a *feu de joie* was fired. The day passed off with great *eclat* and concluded with a Bonfire on the West Hill. All business was suspended for two days, the occasion being one to be remembered by young and old.

Again (unhappily far too soon, owing to the lamented death of King Edward the Peacemaker), the Barons of the Cinque Ports attended the Coronation of King George V. on June 22nd, 1911, when the Mayor, Alderman R. W. Mitchell, was chosen and attended the Coronation of His Majesty and Queen Mary. His portrait is also given. The photo for this block was taken at Christ Church, St. Leonards, when the Corporation attended the service, and was accompanied by Alderman F. A. Langham, Councillor Joseph Adams, Mayor of Rye (a native of Hastings), and his Deputy, Alderman Frank Jarrett, all in their robes as Barons of the Cinque Ports. The Coronation festivities similar to those carried out at the Coronation of King Edward were repeated amid scenes of loyalty and enthusiasm.

1920. The Mayor of Hastings (Councillor W. Perrins, J.P.), elected Speaker of the Cinque Ports and a Meeting of the Brotherhood and Guestling was held at Hastings during this year.

THE HASTINGS BARONS AT THE CORONATION OF GEORGE II. AND QUEEN CAROLINE.

The following quaint and interesting account of the Coronation proceedings is extracted literally from the private collection of the "Collier Letters," by permission of Mr. Charles Lane Sayer, a descendant of John Collier, whose daughter, Sarah, married Henry Sayer.

5th October, 1727 (The Coronation of George II. and Queen Caroline). Mr. Collier, from London, to his wife at Hastings:—

"I have not been able to learn many particulars about our Coronation affair, but I think its agreed we are not to have Esquires. There is to be a meeting of the Barons (*of Cinque Ports*) next Monday night to settle who are to support (*Canopy Bearers*) over the King and Queen in p'ticular. I have made no progresse in my Robes, nor shall not till I see what Others provide."

(In a Postscript to this letter he says, "Candles are risen 2s. 6d. a Dozen, on account of the Vast Quantity bought up for the Coronation Illuminations. I need not tell you that if they fire the Guns, none of the Children should be out.")

7th October, 1727 (Mr. Collier, from London, to his wife).—"Nothing else is talked of but the Coronation. I am in a little Dilemma about my robeing, but Lord Ashburnham yesterday offered me a Shirt and Neckcloth for the Ceremony, and I accepted. To buy one I should be much vexed. . . . It must be full bottomed, and will cost, in my Complexion, 15 Guineas. I have seen the Wardrobe, and Every Thing is Exquisitely fine and Magnificent. Mr. Dyne (*Mayor elect of Hastings*) Came to Town this day about noon, and I have been Plagu'd with him to get his Accoutrements, but of this take no notice, for I think I have by this Manag'd soe as to Support the Queen's Canopy, w^{ch} I would not upon any accot loose. Itt's vastly the Greatest Honor and Indeed the Queen manages everything in the World. . . . We have Scarlet Robes lin'd with Crimson Sattin, wastcoats of the same Sattin, breeches of the same cloath, Scarlet worsted Stockings, because Silk will not take soe good a dye, black velvet Shooes with red heels, black velvet Caps, white Gloves, of w^{ch} the Topps are faced with Crimson, we are to wear Swords, and as to Wiggs and Linen as Rich as each Baron pleases."

12th October, 1727 (Mr. Collier to his wife describes the Coronation).—"I can now with pleasure Inform you that our Coronation affair (I mean as to the fatigueing p^t) is happily over. Tomorrow at 12 we divide our Canopy, and the Shares of the Hasting 6 Barons is to goe into a Punch bowle, in perpetuity of the Grand Solemnity. I mean only the staves, as to the Canopy, we shall divide it amongst our selves, Tho' itt's not of Great Value. The Punch Bowle was proposed by Colonel Pelham, and thought mightily well of by our

Great Duke (*of Newcastle*) soe I readily joyn'd, and we are to have our names, and the occasion, etc., engraven on it. I shan't enter into p'ticulars of the Procession and Ceremoniall, hoping soon to have the pleasure of speaking it to you, but the whole was of the Greatest Splendour and Magnificence itt's possible to be thought of. I was at the Queen's Canopy, much to my satisfaction, and the procession was very agreeable, tho' vastly fatigueing. . . . I din'd to-day at the Duke's by a p'ticular Invitation with my Bro. Co-Baron Dyne, who took his pipe according to custom after Dinner and I am just now come back. . . . Mr. Pelham, Coll^l. Pelham, Mr. Pelham of Stanmer, Sr. W. Ashburnham, Sr. Wm. Gage, etc., Dined with us where we have been exceeding merry, and without Hard Drinking. I shall now take leave, etc.,”

(In a postscript).—“ I can't forbear telling you that the Queen was Exceedingly obligeing in the procession, and talked very much to our corner of the Staves, Vizt Pelham and Townshend (*M.P. for Hastings*) and soe I came in for my share. Her Train was borne by 7 Ladies (3 of them the 3 Princesses), Dressed as fine as is possible to be thought of, and in coming back the 3 young Ladies, ag^t whom we then were, put on the same obligeing airs. and were very merry.” (*The Punch Bowl was duly made and is preserved in Hastings Museum, and Mr. Collier's Robes passed into the possession of the late Countess Waldegrave and existed in the Museum in 1862; where they are now I know not*). . . . Footnote by Mr. C. L. Sayer :—“ The Barons of the Cinque Ports on this occasion fared better than their predecessors at the Coronation of Charles II., who, after the ceremony, had to engage in a sort of ‘tug of war’ with the King's footmen for the possession of their Canopy.” (See “Pepys's Diary,” under date April 23rd, 1661.) Mr. Milward, Mr. Collier's son-in-law, filled a similar position at the Coronation of George III., and his son, Edward Milward, the younger, at that of George IV.

Ref.—Moss has the following minute as to the election of the Barons from the Town Records :—Hasting.—At an Assembly of the Mayor, Jurats, and the commonalty, of the said town and port, held at the Common Hall, the 23rd September, 1727; the following gentlemen were elected barons for the 1st port. To support the Canopies over their magestys King George the Second, and Queen Caroline at their Coronation, appointed for the 4th October, 1727; and then by proclamation deferred till Wednesday the 11th of the said month; and the said gentlemen attended the service, and were at the whole expense of their robes, &c., without any charge to the Corporation, besides the handsome treat at the time of their election of 20 gns.—Canopy Bearers to the King—Sir William Ashburnham, Bart., Thomas Pelham of Stanmer, Esq., Edward Dyne, Esq.—To the Queen—The Hon. Thos. Townsend, Esq., James Pelham, Esq., John Collier, Esq. These Barons presented the Corporation with the Silver Punch Bowl, weighing 164 ozs. 18 dwts., and holds four gallons. The same was made out of their shares and dividends of the silver, &c., belonging to the said canopies.” (This Bowl, sometimes used by the Mayor at Banquets, is now in the Hastings Museum.)

HASTINGS IN THE 16TH AND 17TH CENTURIES.

There are little or no records of the social or commercial life of Hastings during this long period. What few glimpses we have are gathered from old Charters, from the Corporation Records, and from the earlier writers, of which Horsfield, Durrant Cooper, and Ross are the exponents. The Castle had fallen into decay from the encroachments of the sea. The site of the town being very low, for it had a haven running up the Priory Valley, which had been inundated and laid waste, while the Castle Cliff was to a very large extent gradually destroyed, until a portion projecting out, probably as far as Caroline Place, called the Gun Garden, disappeared. *Horsfield's History of Sussex* relates that in 1544, in a charter of Henry VIII., its state is described as—"by the flux and reflux of the sea, and by the conflagrations of our enemies, not only of lands and tenements, but also of inhabitants, reduced to waste, destruction and poverty." We obtain a further glimpse of its decay in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. She issued her letters patent authorising a collection for a new harbour at Hastings, when the town was described as "much decayed, the traffic of Merchants thither forsaken, the fishing, by reason of the dangerous landing, but little used, the rich and wealthy men gone thence, and the poor men would gladly do the like if without offence to our laws they might be elsewhere received, whereby our people are likely to perish, and our said port likely to be subverted and become desolate."

About 1578, a harbour was built near the end of the old parade, but was destroyed by the sea. One, William Relf, of Ore, was the projector of a new harbour in the same reign, but the money collected was, it seems, fraudulently spent, and nothing was done. The remains of the Elizabethan pier are now covered by the beach. In 1586, the country being threatened with the invasion of the Spanish Armada, a return was ordered to be made of the ships and mariners belonging to the town. The number of Hastings ships was 20, of a burden from 12 to 42 tons, having 32 masters and 326 mariners. The names of the mariners and ships of Hastings which were engaged in the destruction of the Armada are on record, and many of these are still familiar at the present day. The records give the names of 106, amongst them are those of Wood, Bossom, Butler, Taught, Tanner, Daniels, Hide, Ball, Wingfield, and others.

A further survey of the defences of the coast of Sussex was made in 1587 by Sir Thomas Palmer and Sir Walter Covert, the two deputy lieutenants of the county, a copy of which is now in the British Museum (King's Library). Of Hastings it is reported 'that the town is strongly seated and easily to be fortified.'

In March, 1595, an attempt was made by the men from the Cobb of Lyme to rebuild the pier. The first winter storm blew away, and a new work was begun. The Corporation Records contain several entries relating to the rebuilding. The work was completed. "Behold," says the records, "when men were most secure and thought the work to be perpetual, on All Saints' Day, 1597, appeared the mighty force of God, and overthrew this large work in less than an hour, to the great terror and amazement of all beholders." The Corporation were left in debt and the designs seem to have been for the time abandoned. Another attempt was made in 1635 by an eminent Dutch Engineer, to make a fresh harbour at the Priory Stream, at an estimated cost of £220,000, but nothing came of the movement. It was during Elizabeth's reign, in 1588, that Hastings received its charter of incorporation, with a Mayor and Twelve Jurats. Up to this time the chief Magistrate had borne the title of Bailiff; the first Mayor chosen was Thomas Hayer.

So far as the provision of a harbour is concerned, although the plans were made in the first half of the last century, for an expensive one from the Priory to the East Cliffs, the enormous cost made it an impossibility. The last attempt was made about 1893, when was begun the harbour at the Fishmarket, the arm of which remains as a reminder of the fact that for the period of over 300 years there has been at least seven attempts at building a harbour, none of which have proved practical propositions. A plan of the Elizabethan pier, and the new work of 1597, is given on p. 94, Vol. XIV., "Suss. Arch. Coll."

It must be remembered that upon the destruction by the sea of the Saxon town clustering around the Priory, of which accounts are preserved, the "New Burg," sprung up in the Bourne Valley which we now know as the Old Town, between the East and West Hills. Up to the beginning of the 17th century it was practically confined to this valley.

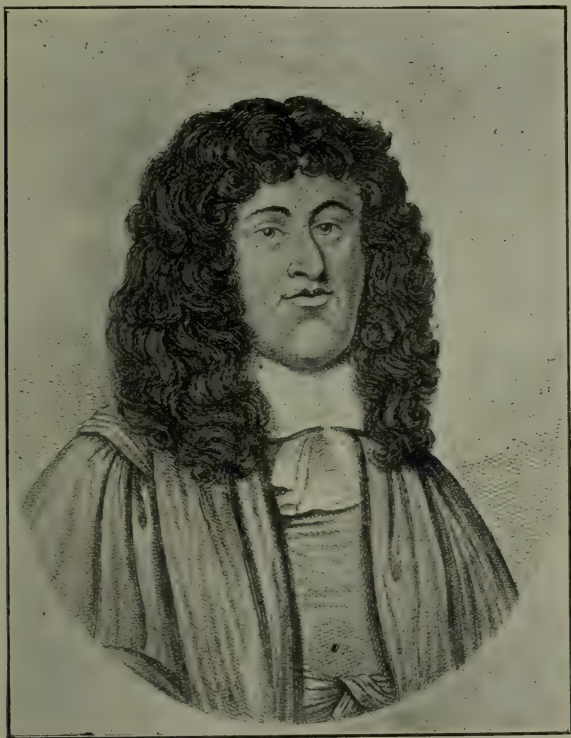
The Official Records of Hastings contain the following—
"1601 (October 4) Richard Life, jurat, and Sir Thomas Sherley, Knight, were chosen Barons to Parliament.

"1602 (June 11). Election of Thomas Nicholl as bailiff of the Bourne with instructions to have diligent care for those that lay their filth above the full sea mark. (This refers to the Bourne Stream running through the town.)

"1603 (July 11). At a meeting of the Brotherhood and Guestling decided how the Barons were to be apparelled for the Coronation of King Edward IV."

TITUS OATES.

The connection of this “famous” man with Hastings is mentioned in every guide book known to collectors, but little is stated beyond the fact that he was famous as an Informer in the Popish Plot.



[Lent by Mr. Thomas Parkin.]

TITUS OATES.

THE TRIAL OF TITUS OATES—1684-5.

The Corporation records contain an entry on 3rd August, 1675.—“This assembly are agreed that Mr. Maior shall be advised by the ports Counsell at the public charge of this Corporacion, whether His Majesty’s writ out of the Crown Office in the King’s Bench proceeded at the suite of Titus Otes, Clerk, to remove thither the indictment of purjurie late preferred in Session against him by Francis Norwood, and served at the last Session, shall be defended or returned. The Writ was obeyed and the indictment returned.” *Suss. Arch. Coll., Vol. XIV.* F. Norwood was Town Clerk.

The following is an extract from *The Universal Magazine of 1760*:—“The year 1684 was almost wholly spent in establishing the King’s acquired absolute power. (Charles II.)” “To



OLD BUILDINGS AT HASTINGS.

By H. Morton.]

[Lent by Mr. A. F. Wood.

VIEW OF TITUS OATES' HOUSE, SHEWING THE BOURNE
STREAM, 1817, LOOKING UP BARLEY LANE.



By J. D. Harding.]

[Lent by Rev. H. C. B. Foyster

OLD TIMBERED HOUSE, TOP OF HIGH STREET, WITH GATE LEADING
TO TORFIELD.

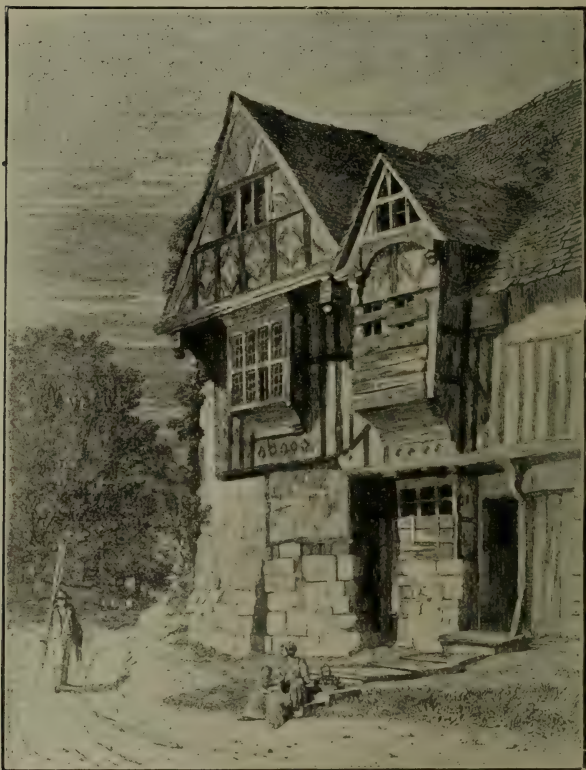
Once the reputed residence of Titus Oates. A 16th Century House.

facilitate the condemnation of those whose prosecutions were resolved, the King had made Sir George Jefferies, Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench. He was a man fit for the purposes of the Court, without honour or conscience, impudent to the last degree, and ever ready to betray his duty, and in the interests of Justice and the Kingdom, to recommend himself to those who were in power." "The Duke of York (brother of Charles II.) also brought his action for *Scandalum Magnatum* against Titus Oates, for directly calling him a Traitor. For this offence the Court gave the Duke of York a hundred thousand pounds damages. Shortly after, he was indicted for perjury, in relation to Father Ireland's being in London at the time Oates swore to at his trial. Not long after another indictment of perjury was preferred against him in relation to his being present at the supposed consult of the Jesuits at the White Horse Tavern in 1678. But these indictments not being tried this reign, Oates continued in prison. He escaped with life, though properly condemned to perpetual imprisonment as not being able to pay their exorbitant fines."

On May 10th, 1685 (James II.), Oates was tried upon the second indictment of perjury concerning Father Ireland. The Attorney General (Sir Robert Sawyer), made a speech declaring Oates was one of the greatest impostors that ever did appear upon the stage, either in this Kingdom or any other nation. It must be observed that this Attorney General had been one of the Council for the King in 1678, to support and improve Oates' evidence. Oates desired it might be observed, that the King's Council who were now against him, had been for him in the trials of the five Jesuits, and particularly the Attorney and Solicitor General; That Lord Chief Justice Jefferies, before whom his cause was pleading, was amongst the King's Council in 1678, and did then declare, "That the verdict against the five Jesuits was a just verdict." Above forty witnesses were produced against him, nine of whom were Protestants, who swore that Father Ireland was in Staffordshire, when Oates was in London; and he was also found guilty of this indictment. What is most strange, some pretend, there is not the least appearance of injustice or partiality in the verdict against Oates; but on the contrary, the partiality is evident in the verdict against the five Jesuits. But, at least, it cannot be denied that there was a great deal of passion in the sentence against Oates, and much more in the execution of the same. The sentence was as follows:—

1. That he should pay a fine of one thousand marks upon each indictment.
2. That he should be stripped of all his canonical habits.
3. That he should stand in the Pillory before Westminster Hall Gate upon Monday next, for an hour's time, with a paper over his head (which he must first walk with round about to all the Courts in Westminster Hall), declaring his crime; and that upon his first indictment

4. That for the second indictment, he should, upon Tuesday stand in the Pillory at the Royal Exchange in London, for an hour, with the same inscription.
5. On Wednesday he should be whipped from Aldgate to Newgate.
6. On Friday he should be whipped from Newgate to Tyburn.
7. And for annual commemorations, upon every 24th of April, as long as he should live, he was to stand in the Pillory at Tyburn, just opposite to the gallows for an hour.



By J. S. Munn.]

[Lent by Rev. H. C. B. Foyster.]

ANOTHER VIEW OF TITUS OATES' HOUSE, PROBABLE

DATE 1800.

8. That, upon every 9th of August, he was to stand in the Pillory at Westminster Hall Gate because he had sworn that Ireland was in town between the 8th and 12th of August; the like on every 10th of August at Charing Cross, and over against the Temple gate every 11th of

August; and upon every 2nd of September he was to do the same at the Royal Exchange. All this he was to do every year during his life, and be committed a close prisoner as long as he lived.

After pronouncing this sentence, Jefferies added, that, if it had been in his power, Oates should have been condemned to die.

It must be observed that standing in the Pillory, which in other countries only exposes to shame, is in England something more; for it is permitted to pelt those that stand there with dirt and all sorts of nastiness; and it often happens that the mob abuse the



Photo.]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

TOP OF HIGH STREET AND ALL SAINTS' STREET, 1920, WITH
MARKET CROSS AND DRINKING FOUNTAIN.

(The Old Building is the former site of Titus Oates' House, with
All Saints' Church on the left.)

liberty, and throw rotten eggs, and even stones, at the prisoner. What was considered most barbarous in this sentence was the ordering a man to be whipped twice in three days. Some charitable persons used their endeavours to beg off part of this wretched man's punishment and made application to the Queen, entreating her to intercede for him, at least with the second scourging. But all intercession was in vain, the sentence was executed with all imaginable rigour and barbarity. In a word, his escaping with life was looked upon as something miraculous."

NOTE.—*Moss's History of Hastings*, 1824, says:—"That Oates might have dwelt in the town seems highly probable, from the

situation he held of officiating minister of All Saints' Parish."

NOTE.—"Titus Oates, the ministerial informer, so notorious in the reign of Charles II., appears by an entry in the church books dated January 4th, 1673, to have been officiating minister in All Saints' Church. The entry of his Baptism in 1619 also appears in the register, although nearly illegible, and is presumptive proof that he was a native of Hastings. His father was Rector of All Saints, and having been chaplain to Colonel Pride, probably obtained the Church during the ascendancy of the Puritans. It is scarcely necessary to remind the reader that Titus Oates was the *discoverer as he said, the inventor*, as the general voice of history has decided, of the so-called Popish Plot, and the means thereby of consigning Lord Stafford and fourteen other persons to a violent death, in the reign of Charles II. After the accession of James II., Oates was convicted of perjury, and the sentence passed upon him was so savage and illegal, and, moreover, executed with such severity as to produce the belief that he was not intended to survive it. After the Revolution in 1688, he was pardoned and admitted to a pension of £400 a year, being probably considered as a martyr to the Protestant cause. He died in 1705, in the communion of the Baptists, by whom, however, he seems to have been looked upon as a suspicious character."—*Diplock's Handbook to Hastings*, 1846.

Miss Mary Matilda Howard, a writer of reputed ability, and the author of *A Handbook for Hastings and St. Leonard's* (published by William Diplock, Hastings, 1866), was born in 1805 and resided in the town for many years, says (p. 48), "On the left hand, a little way up the hill (*Old London Road*), at the southern extremity of the avenue, near a gate opening into a meadow (*Torfield*), is a building which occupies the site of the house once famous as the abode of Titus Oates, whose father was Rector of All Saints' in 1660. Titus Oates was in all probability born at Hastings, the entry of his baptism being in the Parish register of All Saints for 1619."

This house has been drawn by several artists—there is one by S. Prout, 1815, in the *Suss. Arch. Coll.*, vol. 14, p. 106—and it occupied the site now covered by stables and workshops at the north entrance to High Street, adjoining the wicket gate to Torfield at the bottom of Old London Road. The late Rev. W. C. Sayer-Milward, to whom the property belonged, believed this to be so. It was once occupied by Mr. Edward Milward, and in the "Collier Letters," it is stated that Mr. John Collier owned the *three* houses, which were called the upper, lower, and middle houses, this house was probably referred to as the upper, the "Mansion," known as "Old Hastings House," the lower, and "Torfield House," the middle house. By collectors this house is generally referred to as Titus Oates' house, although in some of the guide books he is said to have lived in All Saints' Street. These give no reference as to the site. I have, however, communicated with the Editor of the

‘Collier Letters,’” but he is unable to throw any light upon the question. In the latter part of the 18th Century it was allowed to fall into decay and was finally demolished about 1820. Part of the original boundary wall still exists.

There may be some ground for the Rector of All Saints residing at this period in St. Clement’s. First: The Churches were then both under one Rector. Second: There was no separate Rectory House in All Saints. Third: The position—High Street—was the home of the richer classes at that period, and All Saints’ Street of the fishing population and small traders.—*Author.*

SOME FAMILIAR NAMES.

Since the publication of my 1st Edition of ‘‘Hastings of Bygone Days’’ I am indebted to my friend, Mr. Ben. Meadows, (a former Town Clerk) for pointing out a historical error in my allusion to the origin of the coal dues, in the interesting letter from his pen which appeared in the *Hastings Observer* and which deserves a place in *Hastings of Bygone Days*.—*Author.*

“To the Editor of the *Observer*.

“SIR,—The following few facts and coincidences may interest some of your readers who are identified or associated with old Hastings, or who, having taken up their residence here, would like to know something of its ancient Municipal history.

The first Mayor under the Charter granted to the town by Queen Elizabeth (1588) was Thomas Hays, who at that time held the corresponding office of Bailiff. The first recorded Bailiff was Will Haylman, who held office as long ago as 1196. A fact not, I believe, generally known is that the Charter granted by Queen Elizabeth was solemnly surrendered by the Corporation to King James II., but only with the advice of Counsel (a very wise precaution under the circumstances).

A fresh Charter was granted by the King (1685) which carefully preserved all the properties, rights, privileges, etc., theretofore granted. These Charters included the grant to the Corporation of the stonebeach.

The original Charter of Queen Elizabeth, notwithstanding the surrender, is still in the possession of the Corporation, but the great Seal has been detached—a circumstance for which the formal surrender would perhaps account.

The first (or modern so termed) Mayor under this Charter was Sir Denny Ashburnham, Bart. (probably an ancestor of Sir William Ashburnham-Clement). The first Recorder was Colonel John

Strode. This gentleman, it would seem, had some influence at Court, as he was (as appears from the Corporation records) instrumental in procuring the new Charter in substitution for the previous one.

The first Town Clerk was Robert Norwood, and in the Recorder there was vested by the Charter of King James II. the power to appoint a successor to the Town Clerk in the event of his death or removal from office. The office of Clerk to the Corporation is, however, of much more ancient origin, as in what is called the Customal of Hastings, compiled in the reign of King Edward III., there is provision for the election annually by the Bailiff and Jurats assembled with the assent of the whole of the Commonalty of a Clerk. By virtue of this Customal the Bailiff acted as Coroner, and there is mention of a Sergeant, the forerunner, no doubt, of the Sergeant at Mace or Town Sergeant. I have not been able at present to ascertain who was the first independent Coroner.

The first Clerk of the Peace appointed on the grant to the borough of a separate Court of Quarter Sessions (1836), was Thomas Baker Baker, in whose office my father worked. The first Sergeant at Mace to the Mayor under King James' Charter was Richard Thresher, and the first Town Sergeant, James Redham. Messrs. Catt and Simmons, the present holders, have reason, therefore, to be proud of the antiquity of their respective offices.

The office of Borough Chamberlain is also an ancient one, as this officer is mentioned in the Corporation records of 1685, and possibly earlier. The last holder was the late much respected John Gibson. Perhaps it is a pity some appointment was not made on his death (it need only have been an honorary one) in order to maintain this link with the past.

In a return of Freemen and other persons made in the reign of King Edward III. we find "Gilbert Gabbe" (possibly an ancestor of one whose name is a household word to the present and last generation); "Robert Tottighe," a name which is preserved in connection with part of the Sayer-Milward Estate, as well as the following (modern spelling), Baker, Harding, Pelham, Reed, and Whicker.

A benevolence return of 36, Henry VIII. (1544) gives the names of the principal inhabitants, with the amounts of their contributions. Amongst these we find "John Love 20s.," "Edward Wood 20s.," "Richard Standen 20s.," "Thomas Standen 20s." (This was my mother's maiden name.)

In a list of ships belonging to Hastings there is included "The Peter Paulmeres," 36 tons; owner, "Henry Tought." And amongst the able men to take charge of these ships the following names (modern spelling is given in most instances): Bossum, Butler, Crosskey, Hide, (John) Meadows, Palmer, Reed, Stace and Wood.

At a meeting of the Corporation held in 1618 the Mayor and Mr. Liffe were nominated to travel with Mr. Nicholas Eversfield to the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports to procure his aid towards obtaining fresh letters patent for re-building the Pier (or arm of the Haven or Harbour) which had fallen into a state of decay. (How history repeats itself !) An attempt was made in 1635 under the advice of an eminent Dutch engineer (apparently there was no Englishmen equal to the task) to make a fresh haven (or harbour) at the Priory Stream (just east of the present Queen's Hotel). His estimate including the cost of the pier was £220,000 (there seems to be something not quite unfamiliar with those figures), and needless to say the project fell through.

In 1618 a return was made to the Lord Warden of the "musters" in the town, which consisted of a trained band and general band with officers ; conceivably the forerunner of the Hastings Branch of the V.T.C. In this return we find the names of Melchior Rainolds (town) clerk and Thomas Rainolds (town) clerk. (The office was apparently then held jointly). Also the following (modern spelling is given in several instances) :— (John) Ball, Barham, Burt, Coussens, Dighton (so spelt in the original), Dyer, Gallop, Grover, Hayles, Mannington, (John) Meadows, Mills, Mitchell, Pelham, Randall, Shoemith, Stace, Venables, Winter, (Thomas) Wood, and Young. There were two men named Thomas Wood, one a brewer and one a sailor. Part of the establishment consisted of 5 teams, one of which was furnished by Edward Sheather.

As a matter of finance it is recorded that in 1685 the Corporation decided in view of the debts of the town and of the heavy expenses to be incurred in attending the forthcoming Coronation to borrow £40 on the Town's Bond for 12 months with interest at 6 per cent. (Perhaps some reader may be able to say what that sum would represent in the present day). It is not recorded that the Finance Committee prepared an estimate of the expenditure, or that any economist either protested or moved an amendment.

For some of the foregoing information I am indebted to the valuable paper (a print of which is in the Reference Library) contributed by the late William Durrant Cooper and Thomas Ross to the Sussex Archæological Collection (Vol. XIV.) on "Hastings and its Municipal Institutions." When I first began to assist my father in the work of the Town Clerk's department in 1874, Mr. Ross was an Alderman (having previously served as Mayor on 5 occasions), and was actively engaged in securing what has proved to be such a boon for the town—the Alexandra Park.

There is a note to the paper before referred to (evidently made by Mr. Ross), which was published in 1862, to the effect that the ancient method of convening an assembly of the inhabitants was by horn, and that it was put into use a few years previously when

the Gaol (then in or near Courthouse Street) was broken open to release women and boys imprisoned for selling fish on the Stade contrary to the new Market Act !

Reverting for a moment to the Bailiffs it is somewhat curious to note that on the Wekes' brass in St. Clement's Church (which my good friend the Rector was kind enough to shew me on the occasion of a recent visit) he is described as late Jurat (an office equivalent to that of Alderman), although only two years previous to his death he had held the higher office of Bailiff.

In connection with a subject which has recently engaged the attention of the Corporation—the abolition of the Coal Duty, I am sure the author of that interesting work, "Hastings of By-gone Days, etc.," will forgive me for pointing out an error (a very general one, as I know from past experience), which occurs on page 260. It is there stated that the right to levy the coal dues was conferred on the Corporation by Queen Elizabeth's Charter. I am sorry to deprive this right of any of its assumed antiquity, but it is much more modern, and had its origin in a Statute passed in the first year of the reign of King George IV.

Yours truly,

BEN. F. MEADOWS.

The following other local names (some familiar at the present time) may be mentioned:—Henry Carleton, Thomas Boyse, Edward Dyne, Benjamin Meadows, sen., Thomas Whales, Thomas Hyde, Michael Penbuckle, Mark Bayley (Son of Mark), William Bourne, jun., James Batchelor, Samuel Gillart, John Walls, Benjamin Meadows, jun., John Wingfield, Edward Milward (Mayor), John Collier, John Sparrow, Robert Gourley, George Broadbridge, John Sargent, Roger Harrison, Robert Thatcher, Richard Chambers, John Moore, Robert Bartholomew, Stephen Perigoe, Richard Hart, Benjamin Meadows, sen., Joseph Grayling, Henry Sargent, John Sargent (Son of Henry), Edward Sargent, Stephen Sargent, Thomas Moore, John Moore, Richard Hutcheson, John Oliver, William Shorter, John Chambers, Benjamin Stephens, Benjamin Meadows, Jun., Richard Lawrence, Jeffrey Glyde, John Broadbridge, John Crouch, George Fellows, Edward Hall, Mark Barry, Mark Bayley, Sen., William Bourne, Sen., Mark Bayley (Tide waiter), Thomas Bourne, Samuel Gyllert, Richard Caswall, Edward Webb, Thomas Gyles, John Casper, Mark Bailey, Jun., Thomas Caswell, James Batchelor, Samuel Moore, Phillip Stevenson, Sen., Robert Hussy, John Bossom, Phillip Stevenson, Jun., John Geery, John Hide, Thomas Curtis, John Whales John Philip, Robert Taught.

ITS SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL LIFE IN THE 18TH CENTURY.

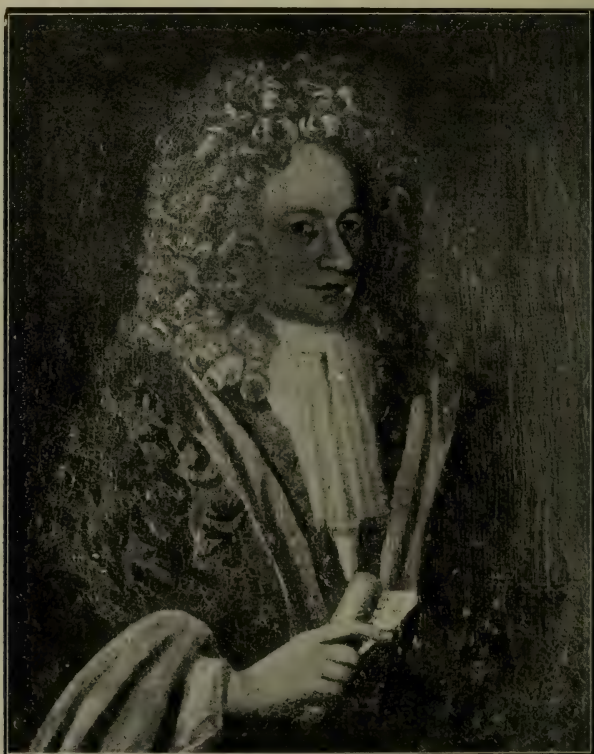
THE PIONEER OF MODERN HASTINGS.

JOHN COLLIER, ESQUIRE, TOWN CLERK AND MAYOR OF
HASTINGS, AND BARON OF THE CINQUE PORTS.

I am enabled by the courtesy of Mr. Charles Lane Sayer, the Editor of the "Collier Letters"—compiled and printed in two volumes, embracing the correspondence of John Collier (for private use only), and his Family—1716-1780—to include in my "Hastings of Bygone Days," extracts from this "private collection," illustrating the social, political and commercial life of Hastings during the period covered by these interesting memoranda, and prior to the transition of this Old Cinque Port from a small fishing town of less than 3,000 inhabitants to the opening of its recognition as a health resort in the middle of the 18th Century. (Mr. Charles Lane Sayer, a brother of the late Rev. William Carlisle Sayer-Milward, of Hastings.)

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.—Mr. John Collier was born at Eastbourne, in Sussex, in November, 1685, about 30 years after Oliver Cromwell became Protector, and the same year of the Accession of James II., and, therefore, would have been conversant with the history of those turbulent times, which included the period of that arch conspirator, Titus Oates, and the Popish plot, which created such a panic. Mr. Collier, who was trained and practised as a Solicitor, settled at Hastings early in life. He became Town Clerk, and afterwards Mayor (to which office he was elected first in 1719, and again in 1722, 1730, 1737 and 1741); A Baron of the Cinque Ports, and attended as such at the Coronation of George the Second; one of the two joint Solicitors to the Cinque Ports, 1750; Surveyor General of the Riding Officers of the Customs for the County of Kent, 1756; Usher and Crier of the Court of King's Bench; Judge Advocate; and principal deputy of the Duke of Newcastle as Vice-Admiral of the coast of Sussex. In his private capacity, he was an attorney and solicitor, and steward of several manors, and also agent for the Sussex estates of Mr. Henry Pelham, Prime Minister to George II., and, according to tradition handed down by his family, also acted as banker to all the people round Hastings, there being then no bank in the town. The Town was one of the several boroughs in which the influence of the Duke of Newcastle, Henry Pelham's brother, was paramount, and Mr. Collier being the Duke's Agent, he would naturally be the channel through which such Government patronage as found its way to Hastings would flow. The Duke seems first to have established his interest here

at the General Election of 1734, when his kinsman, Thomas Pelham, was returned, and it appears from the following extract from a letter from Henry Pelham to the Duke, written in view of the election, that Mr. Collier was even then considered all-powerful at Hastings:—“As to Mr. Collyer, you can’t do too much, for if I can judge, that Town (Hastings) absolutely depends upon him, and perhaps if he were cool, would leave you. I desire, therefore, you will from me tell Sir Robert Walpole if he has a mind to have two Whigs chosen at Hastings, he must provide handsomely for Collyer.” It may very



[By permission of]

[Rev. W. C. Sayer-Milward.]

PORTRAIT OF JOHN COLLIER, ESQUIRE.
From an Oil Painting at Fairlight Place.

reasonably be supposed, however, that Mr. Collier’s position as the Duke’s Agent, though originally due to his ascending in the Town, tended to confirm that ascendancy. At the time of his death the borough had been represented for twenty years past by two undoubted nominees of the Duke—his cousin (Colonel Pelham) and his secretary (Andrew Stone). Certainly their letters show the confidence they both felt in Mr. Collier.

Mr. Collier was twice married ; first to a Miss Elphick (an old Sussex name), by whom he had several children, one of whom, a daughter, married a Mr. Worge, of Battle. She died in 1714, and in 1717 he married Miss Mary Cranston, daughter of the Rev. James Cranston, Rector of All Saints and St. Clement's, Hastings, and by her he had eighteen children, thirteen of whom, including all his sons, died in his lifetime. He died in Hastings in 1760. A tablet to his memory is in St. Clement's Church. By his will, dated 26th May, 1758, Mr. Collier, after a legacy to Mrs. Worge above mentioned, and after making due provision for his second wife, left all his property (a considerable one for those days) to his five surviving daughters by the latter—Cordelia, wife of General



Photo]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

OLD HASTINGS HOUSE, HIGH STREET, 1920.

Formerly the residence of John Collier, Esquire. The property of Mrs. W. C. Sayer-Milward.

the Honourable James Murray ; Mary, wife of Edward Milward the elder ; Jane, who afterwards married William Green, of Lewes ; Sarah, who afterwards married Henry Sayer, great grandfather of Mr. Charles Lane Sayer, of London (the Editor of the Collier Letters), the late Rev. W. Carlisle Sayer-Milward, and the late Mr. Alfred Lane Sayer, both of Hastings ; and Henrietta, who married a Mr. Jackson. Of these, Mrs. Murray, Mrs. Green, and Mrs. Jackson died without issue. Mrs. Collier died in 1768. There is abundant evidence in the correspondence that Mr. Collier was a man of excellent abilities and of a kindly nature, an affectionate husband and father, and of

modest and unassuming manners, and he died thoroughly respected by everyone.

Mr. Collier lived in Old Hastings House (although he did not build it), at the North End of High Street, for many years, and which, after his death, was occupied by his widow until her death, then by his son-in-law, Mr. Edward Milward, the elder, after him by his son, Edward Milward, the younger, and after him by his widow, who, after his death, married William, eighth Earl of Waldegrave, but still continued to reside in the house, and surviving her second husband, died there on the 18th of April, 1873. This lady will be remembered by many still living as a great benefactor to Hastings, one of her acts being the gift of sufficient land to the Hastings Corporation to widen and make the present Queen's Road from the Gas Company's Offices to the old railway viaduct (or tunnel) instead of going through what is now the bottom of Stonefield Road; and also the handsome Drinking Fountain in Robertson Street. After her death, Old Hastings House was for many years let to Mr. Coventry Patmore, the poet. Afterwards it was occupied by the present owner, Mrs. W. C. Sayer-Milward.

In Mr. Collier's time it does not appear to have been called by any particular name—letters being addressed to him in the old style: "at his house in Hasting." In the time of Mr. Edward Milward the younger, and his widow, and perhaps that of his father also, it was known as "The Mansion," but the owner, disliking the pretentious sound of the name, has changed it to "Old Hastings House."

MR. COLLIER'S COURTSHIP.—The "Collier Letters" open with one dated May 3rd, 1716, from Mr. Collier at Hastings to Miss Mary Cranston, during their engagement, couched in affectionate terms, and the spelling is in the peculiar style of the period. The letters include those of other members of the family, and in one of this date the Rev. James Cranston, in writing to his daughter, Mary, recites that "Mr. Collier is busy repairing his house, and I am no less busy this day in setting up my Furnace, and mending my old Brewhouse walls, so that you will see great alterations at your return."

ORDERING THE TROUSSEAU.—11th July, 1717—Mr. Collier, from London, to Miss Cranston, Hastings.—"I can now acquaint you of my having bought your cloathes, and flatter myself, Dear Misse will not think I have a dull fancy, for without vanity I think it very rich and handsom, there's 27 yds. at 11s. a yard—the lining is not soe light a blew as you directed, but I was advis'd to have it somewhat stronger coulour, as being much more fashionable—ye Other Suite psues your Command, ye edging to match ye headdress they tell me must be 6 yds., and it is 9s. a yard, not set on fine musling, but fine Lawne, as is the head, being what they tell me is the fashion, and plaine white Ribbon and Girdle is what must be had. I this day bought the Sacred Pledge mark'd E.M.C. Your

other affairs I shall doe as well as I can, and believe me, my Dearest, not unmindfull of you or anything in Command from you.”

(The marriage of Mr. Collier and Miss Mary Cranston took place on 17th August, 1717, at the Lower Church St. Clement's.)

After the marriage, Mr. Collier's legal business in the Courts necessitated his frequent attendance in London during the Parliamentary and Court sittings. The letters passing between Mr. and Mrs. Collier are of an affectionate and at the same time interesting character.

On 10th February, 1718—Mr. Collier to his wife.—“By yesterday's Post I rec^d my Father Cranston's lre. and Mr. Pulteney's Inclosed. (Mr. John Pulteney was M.P. for Hastings in 1695-1706.) I have been the greatest p^t of this Wet day attending on him at the Custom House about the affair. Thos. Holman is the person I have recommended and I believe will get the place. I desire Mr. Pulteney's letter to me may not be taken notice of, for I shall be plagu'd and Dunn'd to Death by petitioners. There is a necessity to make use of these people to get anything, but it goes plagueily ag^t Stomach.” (*This refers to some appointment and Thos. Holman was a cousin of Mrs. Collier's.*)

On February 14th, 1718—Mr. Collier writes to his wife.—“Being to dine with the Speaker. (Sir Spencer Compton, afterwards Lord Wilmington) to-day and my return somewhat uncertaine, I choose to right this morning before I goe, for fear my late Tarrying or drinking a glasse should prevent my doing it.” (*In these days of hard drinking this was perhaps prudent.*)

26th November, 1719—Mr. Collier from London to his wife.—“I rec^d your kind and Obligeing letter, and am mightily pleas'd with the account it brings me of your Welfare. In your next I desire you'll let me know whether any Hasting Vessell is comeing up, that I may send downe Christmas provision and other things. . . . Your account of the Fidler is very agreeable, and I hope to have the happiness of a Tune in a very little time in Company with Mrs. Mayoressse of Hasting.” (*Mr. Collier was Mayor of Hastings for the first time this year.*)

6th February, 1724.—The same.—“I was at Lord Ashburnham's this morning and drank Tea with Lord and Lady, and the little Baby was brought in, and looks a Mighty Thriveing Child.” (*William, second Baron Ashburnham, created Earl of Ashburnham, in 1730, and died 1736.*) “Sr Wm lodges there.” (*Sr Wm. Ashburnham, of Broomham, Guestling, then one of the members for Hastings is here alluded to.*) “I went to see him and find him full of Complaints and Longing for the Country. I was last night at the Playhouse, where was the Prince and Princesse, the latter of whom looks very old, and by her countenance one would be tempted to believe she had done with Children. This being Queen Anne's birthday, there has been prodigious ringing of bells.”

9th February, 1724—The Same.—“I have bought and sent down 200 of Raising for the Wine, but have bought noe Seville Oranges, because I think they may be as Cheap bought in the Country, by Dr. Carleton, of a man that comes often to the Swan.” (*Dr. Carleton was a Medical Man and Mayor of Hastings 1714. The Swan Hotel, High Street, Hastings.*)

21st November, 1730—Mr. Collier in London to his wife at Hastings.—“I was at Lord Ashburnham’s this Morning. He begged to have some baked herrings—if you can get a large Pan. I desire you will send some by first Boat, directed to his house in St. James Square.”

19th February, 1731—The Same.—“I desire Nick may set out Munday morning with the horses, and lye at Sen’nocke (Seven-oaks), and see come to London Tuesday forenoon. I hope to get our fryday, and there is noe coach-day before.” (*It appears from this that coaches did not run from London every day on the Hastings road.*)

16th February, 1733—The Same.—(This letter refers to the death of Mr. Collier’s mother, who died at Hollington and was buried at St. Clement’s, Hastings.)—The Editor’s note in reference is—“I do not know what Mr. Collier’s Mother’s family name was. In the entry of Mr. Collier’s baptism, in the register of St. Mary’s, Eastbourne, he is described as the child of Peter and Sarah Collier. In another reference:—“Mr. Collier’s father was proprietor of the Lamb Inn, at Eastbourne.”

21st February, 1733.—Editor’s reference—(With the letters for this year are a quantity of Bills relating to the laying of pipes of elm wood for the purpose of conveying water from the Bourne Stream to Mr. Collier’s and other houses. Probably the first attempt at supplying the inhabitants with a direct water supply.)

24th June, 1735—From Mr. Collier in London to Mrs. Collier at Hastings.—“I hope the pipes are finished and that you have a supply of water to your satisfaction, notwithstanding the Villanous usage we have met with about the pipes.*”

3rd March, 1736—The Same.—“ . . . I find the Smuggling Trade goes on at a high rate, and soe there is accounts come from all parts, but more particularly Sussex and Kent. . . . The Bexhill Skirmish is in the Newes, but that makes the officers Heroes instead of Running away on the Smugglers attacking them.”

29th November, 1737. The Same.—(*Mr. Collier’s love for Hastings.*)—“I am sorry you think Hastings so desolate a place, and you so often repeating it makes one Imagine you are unfortunate

(*Here Mr. Collier refers to the scheme previously mentioned for supplying the town with water from the Bourne Stream, which was partly carried out (as appears from this letter) but afterwards continued. The heads of the agreement between Henry Carleton (Mayor of Hastings, 1706 and 1714) and Mr. Collier of the one part and Robert Rosam (the contractor of the work) of the other part, are with the correspondence. An action for trespass was brought against Messrs. Collier and Carleton, by two discontented inhabitants, and the scheme was for some reason discontinued.) [See chapter on the Bourne Stream.—Author.]

in being there. For my part I should with Satisfaction Spend the remainder of my Days there without Seeing any other, and I can't at all agree wh^y you in the politeness of our Two Neighbouring Towns." (Battle and Rye, I suppose, are meant—Editor.)

1st May, 1742.—Mr. Collier from Hastings to Mrs. Collier in London. "Dame Arthur was about one a clock Whipp'd at the Carts Tayll round the Town, and had Some Strokes at every lanes End, but I find its thought she had-not half enough, but I inclined to mercy and compassion, and Considered the long time of her confinement in the Cold Weather."

1st June, 1742.—Mr. Collier to Mrs. Collier from London, "T. Green and I went to see Mr. Garrick. The play was Richard the Third, King Richard by Garrick. The Justest, Finest Actor I ever saw." (Ranelagh and Vauxhall are also mentioned, and the celebrated Comick Dancer Signor Grimaldi—Editor.)

In January, 1743—Miss Cordelia Collier to her Mother from Battle Abbey, where she was staying with Lady Webster requesting her Mother to accede to her Ladyship's wish to keep her longer. Same date. Miss Mary Collier at Battle to her Mother at Hastings—"Hon. Madam, My Sister Worge begs y^e favour of you to send three or four pickled Herrings to-morrow by Palmer to make Sollomungundy for y^e Ball, which is next Monday, and the Captain talks of having his Ball some time next week, and if he does, believe it will be a Friday, so hope you will be good as to let us stay till Saturday, but we hope to see my Papa at the Market (Battle) where we can settle that. Our Ball at y^e Abbey was very agreeable. We broke up between five and six in y^e morning, and I staid and lay with my Sister Delia, which was much more comfortable than mounting y^e hill after dancing. This evening we are all invited to spend at Miss Smith's, but y^e gentlemen are gone to Mr. Nicholl's to dinner, so believe we shan't have their company. . . . We staid evening a Tuesday at y^e Abbey, and My Lady is prodigious civil to us. Jenny joins with me in duty to my Papa and yourself."

[Cordelia, the eldest daughter, appears to have been at Battle Abbey, and Mary and Jane with their half-sister, Mrs. Worge.—Editor.]

About this date letters were passing between the Duke of Newcastle and his brother, Mr. Pelham, then Prime Minister, and Mr. Collier, at Hastings, in reference to an intended invasion, and a French Fleet cruising on the British Coast, with instructions to employ proper persons to keep a look out for its movements and report their movements, and Mr. Collier's reply that "we had taken all precautions against surprise."

[It appears that there were some troops quartered at Hastings about this time, and were billeted on the inhabitants which was considered a great burden upon them.]

12th April, 1744—Mr. Collier, at Hastings, to Mrs. Collier, in London.—"I must write something ab^t our Declaration of

War. Sunday afternoon the King's Order for declaration of war against the French, signified by the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, came hither by the proper Officer. They proclaim'd it at Rye a Saturday before their order arrived here, and we fir'd guns. At our Club Sunday night resolv'd to do it yesterday at 2 in the afternoon, the Soldiers to be under Arms. Having settled preliminarys, met at 2.—The Captain and other Off^{rs} had their Corps, ab^t 110 men, drawn up in the fishmarket, all clean an powdered — when we assembled sent down to the Captain, and the March was to begin there to the Old Market (top of High Street). We went down and saluted the Off^{rs} and after exercise proceeded; first the Scotch Dragoons mounted, with their swords drawn, rode before to clear the way. Then the Mayor and Jurats, followed by Capt. Scot and the whole body, 2 drums in the front after one Rank. March'd as slowly as possible and the Soldiers drawn up at the Old Market, Patrick (Mr. Collier's Clerk and afterwards Town Clerk of Hastings) read the Declaration with the previous Proclamation, then 3 Loud Huzza's—Then proceeded in like manner to the fishmarket, read again, and ordered the soldiers drink, and adjourned to the Swan. . . . A prodigious number of people present."

11th December, 1744—Mr. Collier as General of the Riding Officers of the Customs is found writing to the Commissioners of Customs in reference to Smuggling.—"The Smugglers are got to an amazing height on the Kentish and Sussex Coasts, that it has for some time become a very serious thing and highly worthy the consideration of the Senate. Vast quantities of goods are clandestinely imported and abuses given not only to the Officers of the Revenue, but any other persons that offer to speak against their detestable practises. (Here Mr. Collier advances that from his declining in years, his many duties and joyned thereto the audacious insolence of the Smugglers, "I don't think of being concern'd for the future in any prosecutions, and herein I have the advice and approbation of my Great Friends" (The Duke of Newcastle and his brother Henry Pelham).

The Editor of the Collier Letters gives us his reason for referring to Mr. Collier's decision the following.—"I have transcribed this from the part of the correspondence which relates to Custom House matters, because it marks a stage in Mr. Collier's career. Hitherto he had been employed by the Crown in the prosecution of smugglers, and many of the briefs on such prosecutions are among the papers. Considering, however, the daring and insolence of the smugglers, and the number of them in Hastings, and the neighbourhood, it is not surprising that Mr. Collier desired to be relieved from the invidious task of prosecuting them. In a draft letter about this date written to Mr. Fremantle, a Custom-House official, Mr. Collier, referring to the inquest upon a smuggler who had been shot by the Soldiers sent down to assist the revenue officers, says—

“I gave my utmost assistance to Mr. Coppard, the Collector in the affair, and conducted it as well as I could, but in the present situation, and the menaces and insults I have receiv’d, I shall decline acting as Solicitor in any proceedings against the Smugglers.”

Mr. Collier in due course received a reply to his letter of decision expressing much regret and thanks for his past services. Mr. Collier, though retiring from prosecutions, fulfilled his promise of rendering what assistance he could, and I gather from the Customs Correspondence, that he did good service in the course of the suppression of the “Hawkhurst Gang” a few years later—Editor.

About this date (1744) the Editor states—I should gather from the correspondence that Colonel Pelham was then staying at Hastings, where he had a house, I think, from allusions, that Mr. Collier and the other principal inhabitants had formed a club which used to meet at the Swan” (alluding to the Old Swan Hotel, High Street, now pulled down).

1745—In this year the correspondence reveals Mr. Collier using his influence on the side of leniency towards some Hastings Smugglers.—They were saved from transportation by entering the Naval Service, there being a great demand for men at this time (“Poachers make good gamekeepers.” Therefore Smugglers would make good fighting sailors).

1747—Mr. Collier lost his last surviving son during this year, James Collier, who was a Barrister of the Temple, an old scholar of Westminster School, and Mayor of Hastings, 1745. He died at his Chambers in the Temple on May 30th, aged 27 years, and was buried in the north Cloister of Westminster Abbey. (The Editor states that the loss of his last surviving son must have been a great blow to Mr. Collier, and he appears to have fallen into a condition of despondency.)

4th August, 1747—(Mr. Collier is found reporting to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue on the Infamous Hawkhurst gang of Smugglers, and the steps taken by the inhabitants of Goudhurst, Cranbrook and Ticehurst, to protect their districts from, and to effect the capture of the gang). [The Chapter on Smuggling and Smugglers contains allusions to this notorious gang which I believe included Hastings men.—Author.]

30th January, 1749.—The Right Hon^{ble} James Pelham and Andrew Stone, Esq^{re}. M.P.s for Hastings presented a Fire Engine to the Corporation. This stood for some years under the Town Hall, High Street.

8th February, 1749.—Severe shock of earthquake at Hastings, felt more in London. (This is mentioned in Horace Walpole’s letters, 25th February, 1749-50.)

11th February, 1749.—Speaking of Colonel Murray.—“He had a reputation for Gallantry. He was probably also inclined to be extravagant, and he had a fiery temper; but I should not gather from the correspondence that he had any other serious fault. His

military record was excellent, and his courage indisputable. His letters shew him to be a man of education."

8th March, 1749.—Another sharp shock of earthquake felt at Hastings. Shook windows out.

Written at Brickwall, Northiam, 6th March, 1749.—"Poor Miss Morland has lost all her money at cards; and her brother never wins. I keepe pretty even. Its Mr. Frewen runs away with all."

7th November, 1749—(from Hastings).—"Our Dragoon go away this week, and we are to have some of General Howards in their room."

9th November, 1749—(from Hastings).—"We have no news stirring at present, only that Mr. Milward keeps open house, and laughs and halloos so loud that they can hear him down to y^e Swan."

MR. COLLIER'S DESCRIPTION OF MR. MILWARD.

20th April, 1756.—Mr. Collier wrote to the Duke of Newcastle for leave to assign his situation as Surveyor General of the Customs for Kent (which he had held since 1733), and has solicited the appointment of Mr. Milward in his place, and that his application had been favourably received by the Duke. Mr. Collier describes Mr. Milward as "a person in this town who married one of my daughters, who is an active person about 30, very capable of performing the duty in all respects, and I truly believe with honour and reputation, and has an Estate, and on which he lives in a prudent, respectable manner. He was bred to the Law, but not pursued it. Mr. Milward obtained the appointment."

MR. EDWARD MILWARD'S THIRST FOR LAND AND OTHER PROPERTY.

In a letter of 21st January, 1764—Mrs. Collier to Mr. John Cranston, her nephew.—"Mr. Milward is set off this day for London the way he goes on here is quite amazing to all the world, neither house nor land within ten mile of this place that he will not purchase if it's possible, by offering more than people can withstand."

20th May, 1756.—Colonel Pelham, in writing to Mr. Collier, his Agent, says, I am concerned to hear my private Road is almost as bad as the High way, which is very hard, when 'tis' cheifely for you Gentlemen in the neighbourhood. (This refers to a private road from Crowhurst Place (Mr. Pelham's seat) down to a house on the cliff at the west end of St. Leonards called "Bo Peep." This house was called "The Tent," where Mr. Pelham's friends were allowed to resort for pleasure parties and bathing.)

1749.—FIRE ENGINES.—There are several letters of October and November, showing that Mr. Collier was obtaining the prices of different Fire Engines from London Makers.—"As there is another

place for Fire Engines (Cloth Fair) more than where I first called, so I shall go to this second place before I determine which to purchase of, and when I do purchase, think 'twill be quite right to emblazon the Donors thereon—'As the Gift of the Hon^{le} James Pelham and Andrew Stone, Esq^{re}. to this Corporation'—or in any other form you may think proper." (Happens there had been a fire at one of the Churches, and that the two Members for Hastings were presenting the town with a fire engine.—Editor.)

EARTHQUAKE.—In a letter of the 8th February, 1749.—"An alarming shock of earthquake was felt in Hastings, much frightening the inhabitants. It was general throughout England.

AMUSEMENTS.—In letters from Mr. Collier's children to him, written from Rye and Northiam where they were staying with Dr. Frewen, are amusing references to the life of the times.—"We plaid comet in the afternoon, but Wisk (whist) is our cheif game, and I have had good luck since I came, for I have won near Twenty shillings. Mr. Lamb came to visit us in his Sexton Green Waistcoat and clean White Gloves, and not one evening without company to supper with us." In another letter from Northiam—"Here is cards, cards, nothing but cards going forward, that we are a most tired of them. . . ."

HIGHWAYMEN.—"A highway robbery was committed yesterday between Rye and this place; it has occasioned Mr. Frewen to leave his watch behind him."

MR. MILWARD'S COURTSHIP.

MR. EDWARD MILWARD the Elder.—5th June, in writing to Mr. Collier, acquainted him of his ill success in making his addresses to his daughter Jane Collier, and pleading her father's assistance. It would appear he was unsuccessful, for Mr. Milward ultimately married Miss Mary Collier. (The Editor has the following Note—Miss Jenny appears to have adopted a perplexing attitude towards her admirer, and perhaps disapproved, like Lydia Languish, of her suitor's conventional mode of wooing; or perhaps, Mr. Milward may have allowed it to be seen that he thought as the Mayor of Hastings he had only to ask to be accepted. . . . However, this may have been, his new tactics seem to have met with no greater success than his former ones, and the affair went off. He subsequently consoled himself with Mary Collier, the elder sister, who was three years older than Jane.)

CHURCH AND "STATE."—In July, 1750, Mr. W. Cranston, in writing to Mr. Collier, says—"I think your notions of a postillion to your 4 horses quite right—it being at all events safe, which before you were not." (According to family tradition, Mr. Collier used to drive the short distance to St. Clement's Church in his coach and four. This, however, was probably not until after his infirmities had rendered it impossible for him to walk. According to the same Authority, Mrs. Collier, on Sunday afternoons, seated,

herself at the entrance to All Saints' Church, and spoke to the people going in, applauding those who went, and censuring and enquiring the cause of absence of others, speaking to the children, etc., and when the bell ceased, went into Church.—Editor.)

THE CINQUE PORTS.—28th November, 1750.—“From Sir Thomas Hales to Mr. Collier—Desiring to know what is due from the Parish of Bekesbourne to Hastings, and to whom it should be paid, and promising that for the future it shall be paid annually.” (Bekesbourne, in Kent, is a limb of the Cinque Port of Hastings, and, as such, was bound to furnish one ship out of the quota of twenty-one to be found by Hastings and its subordinate members.—Editor.)

PAVING THE TOWN.—7th November, 1751.—Mr. Milward to Mr. Collier.—In reference to the paving operation he says—“We have pulled down part of the pav^{mt} opposite the Maiden Head, and widen'd the Street near three feet, which made it more commodious, and vastly better at Mr. Cossom's Corner—” I should gather from some expressions in this letter, and in Mr. Milward's letters that the Members for Hastings, Colonel Pelham and Mr. Stone, were paying for the paving of the town.—Editor.)

28th November, 1751.—The Same. “Little news stirring, and less fish, bad weather, and town dull—the discourse and mov^{mt} in the Street is on account of the pav^{mt} of which goes on very well but slow. . . . The large Boulders and Mine Stones first picked up by Cousins are used, and I have ventured to give orders for the stragling stones fell down from the Castle and lying in the Hills adjoining to be picked up and used. They being better than anyone can get. . . . There is a great many excellent Stones for the purpose in the old walls tumbled down belonging to the Castle, but shan't venter to touch them until I have consulted you thereon.” (Mr. Collier had now returned from Bath and was in London.)

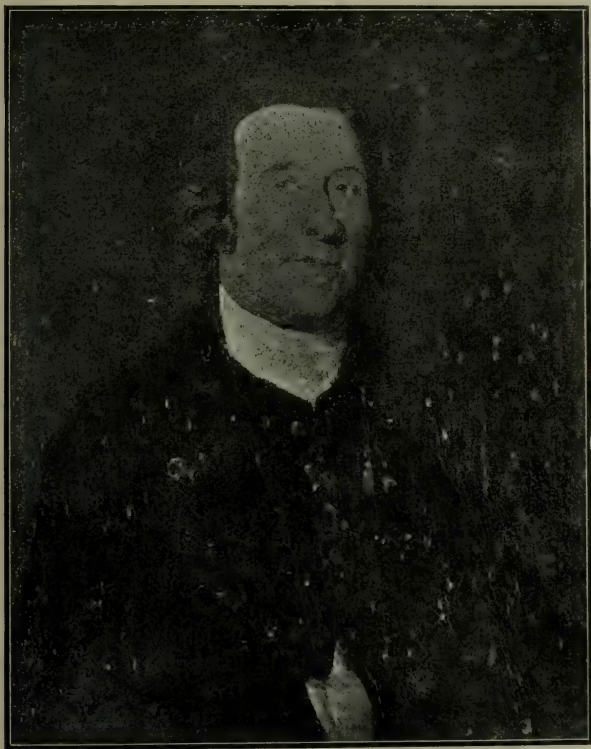
24th February, 1752.—Memorandum by Mr. Collier.—As to the departments of business to be in future to be undertaken by himself and Mr. Patrick respectively. Mr. Collier seems from this time to have taken Mr. Patrick into partnership with him. He expressly reserves to himself “all Court Barons, Keeping Courts, and profits thereof, and the Audits and Receipts of Mr. Pelham's &c., and Trust Estates.”—Editor.

THE FRANCHISE.—24th April, 1753.—(The Parliamentary Franchise at this time was vested in the Mayor, Jurats, and Freemen.—Editor.)

30th May, 1753.—Mr. Edward Milward was Mayor of Hastings in 1753.

THE FIRST WORKHOUSE.—5th October, 1753.—Mr. Milward to Mr. Collier, at Bath.—“ . . . The Poor House is forwarded with the greatest expedition, and nothing ever more generally approved of.” (This was the first establishment of a workhouse at Hastings.—Editor.)

[From Moss's History.—“The first establishment of a Workhouse here (Hastings) is noted in the following entry in the Parish Books of All Saints, May 22nd, 1753.—At a Vestry it was agreed to build a public Workhouse for the poor of St. Clement's, All Saints' and St. Mary-the-Castle (where the Pilchard House stood). In 1773, as appears from another entry, “the three Parishes separated and each provided for its own poor. The Workhouse was in George Street, now No. 42.”]



MR. EDWARD MILWARD, SENIOR.

8th November, 1753.—Mr. Milward to Mr. Collier, in London.—
“ . . . One boy has the Small Pox in the pesthouse, but like to do well.”

FIRST ISOLATION HOSPITAL.—(The pesthouse was a sort of isolation hospital. There is now (1906) a field near Mr. Collier's old house called “Pest House Field.”—Editor.) See plan of Collier Lands.—Author.

4th March, 1754.—“Mr. Pelham, the Prime Minister, died on this day, aged 60. He had sat for the County of Sussex since 1722.

His relative, Mr. Thomas Pelham, of Stanmer (afterwards created Earl of Chichester), was elected the member for Sussex."

PUBLIC LIGHTING.—2nd November, 1754.—The following is an extract from a letter from Mr. Collier to the Duke of Newcastle: " . . . The Town has been for a great many years lighted with lamps, beautiful and useful to the Corporation—the original gift of Col. Pelham. Of late, the Oyl has been by one way or other provided, but has of late been managed with difficulty. I advanced the money this year, and am afraid there will be a deficiency, as the finances of the Corporation are low and we are in debt."

THE NAME OF CLOUDESLEY.—Under date 26th April, 1755.—Mr. Milward from Hastings, to Mr. Collier, then in London.—"Last night's post brought me the melancholy news of the death of my Cousin Molly Lintott—(From subsequent letters this lady, though referred to by her Maiden name, had, in fact, then lately been married to a Mr. Cloudesley—Editor)—who died suddenly the 23rd instant, and know nothing further—being so unexpected, has actually shocked me so much, am scarce able to write, so beg you'd excuse any further scrawl." (Possibly a member of the family connected with Mrs. Cloudesley Shovell, mother of the Admiral who is claimed to have lived in All Saints' Street, Hastings.—Author.)

RABBITS AND REFRACTORY PAUPERS.—31st May, 1755.—Mr. Milward, from Hastings, to Mr. Collier at Bath.—"I and my family went to E.Bourn last Wednesday morning, and set out by six for the advantage of the sand, and returned yesterday by the road. . . (They probably took advantage of the sea shore) We have now a fine stock of rabbits and increase daily, and William and I have made further provision for their safely and security. My resolution is fix't not to kill 'till your return, unless unexpected company fall in. Have made free with your Garden to relieve our necessities. This day Morris (the Gardener of Hastings House) brought us three fine "Cowcubers," being first we have had here." (It appears from other letters that Mr. Collier and Milward, his son-in-law, used both to preserve rabbits. In old Maps one of the fields into which the West Hill was divided, is called "Coney Banks."—Editor.) Mr. Milward also mentions—"Several complaints from the Workhouse made against the poor, and have this day in Publick Court ordered Ste^{pn} Camber to be wipt, and old Philip Harrison to be turned out (and never to apply again for Relief under the penalty to be severely wipt) at his own request." (Mr. Milward was Mayor this year.—Editor.)

THE PRIORY FARM.—8th July, 1756.—Mr. Collier mentions an action relating to the Priory Farm, Hastings, about which there are several letters.—Editor. (A view of this old farm house will be found elsewhere.)

3rd February, 1757.—Colonel Pelham to Mr. Collier, then at Hastings.—"I am glad Mr. Murray (then Colonel Murray) has

accepted a Freedom (made a Freeman), and wish to accommodate him with J. Gower's House, but that wou'd have been dispos'd of long ago, if it had not suited a scheme of mine to keep it in the way it now is for the rest of my life. At least as long as I am able to take a turn now and then to see my friends in Sussex."

PELHAM HOUSE.—(Note.—Views of Colonel James Pelham's original house at No. 82, High Street, Hastings, are shewn elsewhere, and also a view after its reconstruction by Mr. Guy, a printer, who purchased the property about 1872.—Author.)

24th March, 1757.—Mr. W. Cranston to Mr. Collier, then at Hastings.—“I think our Ministerial Change seems to be over. It seems the Grand Question was whether the Duke of Cumberland should go abroad—Pitt violently against it, Fox, of course, for it—but upon a Grand Council on the occasion, it has passed in the negative by one voice only. . . . Paper, pens, ink, penknives, etc., etc., is to be taken off from all publick offices, or at least vastly reduced, for Mr. Legg (Chancellor of Exchequer) says the Items amount to more money than pr annum now than Queen Elizabeth was allowed to carry on fforeign warr. . . .”

SUSSEX IRON INDUSTRY.—As to the Act for permitting all Barr Iron from America to be imported duty free, that it is generally believed will pass. 'Twill hurt y^e Sussex Works.” (The Iron Trade was still of importance in Sussex.—Editor.)

FOUNDER OF BRIGHTON.—30th October, 1758.—Dr. Russell, from Brighton, to Mr. Collier, with advice about his health. “Mr. Collier's health seems to have temporarily improved about this time, as Dr. Russell says he is pleased with the favourable accounts he has had from Mr. Collier's friends.” (Dr. Russell, it will be remembered, was the founder of the reputation of Brighton as a health resort.—Editor.)

MR. COLLIER'S ILLNESS.—9th January, 1759.—Mr. W. Cranston to Mrs. Collier.—“I had the favour of yesterday, which you rightly observ'd that the accounts received of Mr. Collier's illness gave me not the least glymse ever to hope for a recovery, and to think what a person at his time of life has lately gone through and yet to be in the land of the living is amazing. . . . When in Sussex last summer, after finishing every other person's accounts, Mr. Collier was extreamly anxious for my putting his own private affairs in order, which were got in much confusion in his incapacity, thro' his not being able to write, and keep a proper Accou't of his Receipts and Payments. . . . These with the assistance of Mr. Patrick, were, with much pains, gone through, and the particulars thereof given to him, and with which he seem'd much pleas'd. . . . I advised Mr. Collier to give up other people's business, and to put the transacting of his own private concerns into other hands. He seemed to think that 'twould be much more convenient for Mr. Patrick (Mr. Collier's old Clerk) to be his Manager in Chief, and

resolved thereupon accordingly and acquainted him therewith in presence, when it was resolved that in order for the receipts of the rents of his Estate for the future, two audits should be held at the 'Swann' (The Old Swan Hotel), in every year, one in December, another in June. . . ."

(At this time, either Mr. Collier was unconscious, or his intellect was affected, though there would seem afterwards to have been a partial recovery, as some letters are addressed to him by Mr. Cranston.—Editor.)

MR. COLLIER'S WILL.—9th December, 1760.—Mr. Collier died in the 76th year of his age, and the following notes of his dispositions are given by the Editor of the Collier Letters.

WILL OF JOHN COLLIER, ESQUIRE.

(The following is copied from an Abstract of Title to the Land known as the Barrack Ground at Halton, which was at the time of his death the property of Mr. Collier.)—

26th May, 1758.—John Collier of the Town and Port of Hastings in the County of Sussex Esqre., being seized and many years in possession of the premises by his Will of this date gave and devised unto his Wife, Mary Collier, for the Term of her natural life (amongst other hereditaments). All his lands and Hereditaments with their appurtenants situate lying and being in the Parish of Saint Clement within the Town and Port of Hastings and the liberties thereof. And the Testator thereby declared that what he had thereinbefore given to his said Wife was intended in full satisfaction of the Dower and of any claim which she might have on his Estate by virtue of any writing of Agreement entered into previous to their Marriage. And also directed that within two months after his death she should execute a proper Release of such Dower and claim testifying her submission to his Will otherwise she should not take any Benefit under the same. And after sundry other devises and bequests therein contained, the Testator devised the residue of his Real Estate. And as to such part thereof as was thereinbefore given and devised to his said Wife for her life and from and after her decease (except as to his Dwelling House and Garden and Stables, 'Torresfield and Meadow, and Bayley's House and Garden)*, he gave and devised one-fifth part thereof (the whole into five equal parts to be divided) unto and to the use of James Cranston, and William Cranston his Brother, their Heirs and Assigns, during the joint lives of Testator's daughter—Cordelia Murray and James Murray her Husband. Upon trust that they should receive and apply the Rents thereof for her separate use during the joint lives of herself and Husband. And from and after the decease of the said Cordelia Murray in case she should die in the life time of her

* NOTE.—There are three distinct houses referred to here—"His dwelling house (Old Hastings House), Torresfield (now Torfield House), and Bayley's House and Garden. This latter would seem to refer to the traditional residence of Titus Oates, several views of which are shown in the article on Titus Oates. It was once occupied by Mr. Edward Milward.—Author.

said Husband. Then In Trust and to the use of all and every the Children of his said Daughter—Cordelia Murray as well Sons as Daughters share and share alike, and to the heirs of their respective Bodies as Tenants in Common and not as joint tenants. And in default of Issue then in trust and to the use of the Testator's Daughters, Mary Milward, Jane, Sarah and Henrietta Collier and to the heir of their respective bodies as Tenants in Common. But in case of his said Daughter, Cordelia Murray, should survive her said Husband then in trust and to the use of his said daughter, Cordelia Murray, her heirs and assigns for ever, providing, that if by reason of his said daughter Murray's death in the life time of her said Husband, the aforesaid fifth part of his said Real Estate should by virtue of the aforesaid Devise come to his said other Daughters, and their Issue as aforesaid. Then and in such case it was his Will and he did thereby charge the aforesaid fifth part of his said Real Estate, with the payment of the sum of £500 to the said James Murray within six months after the decease of his said Wife. And the Testator gave and devised one other undivided fifth part of his said Real Estate unto his said Daughter, Mary Milward her heirs and assigns for ever. And he gave and devised unto his said Daughter, Jane Collier, her heirs and assigns for ever one other undivided fifth part of his said Real Estate. And he gave and devised one other undivided fifth part of his said Real Estate unto his said Daughter, Sarah Collier, her heirs and assigns for ever. And he gave and devised the remaining undivided fifth part of said Real Estate unto his said Daughter, Henrietta Collier, her heirs and assigns for ever. And after reciting that upon his youngest daughter's coming of age it might be thought proper and convenient to his said Daughter to make partition of his said Real Estate. The Testator thereby directed and empowered the said James Cranston and William Cranston and the survivor of them, and the heirs of such Survivor with the consent of his said Daughter Cordelia Murray testified under her hand and seal to join in making such partition and in executing such Conveyances as Counsel should direct for that purpose in order to divest themselves of the legal estate thereby vested in them of the fifth part of so much of his said Real Estate as might be solely and separately allotted to each and every of his said Daughters, Mary Milward, Jane, Sarah and Henrietta Collier. Providing that the said Mary Milward, Jane, Sarah and Henrietta Collier, join in conveying to his said Trustees their respective rights and interest in such part of his said Real Estate as should be allotted in such partition to his said Daughter, Cordelia Murray. Providing that such part of his said Real Estate as should be solely allotted to his said Daughter, Cordelia Murray, be settled and conveyed to the said James Cranston and William Cranston, or to the survivor of them or to the heirs of such Survivor to and upon the same, and the like uses trusts intents and purposes as the said thereinbefore first mentioned

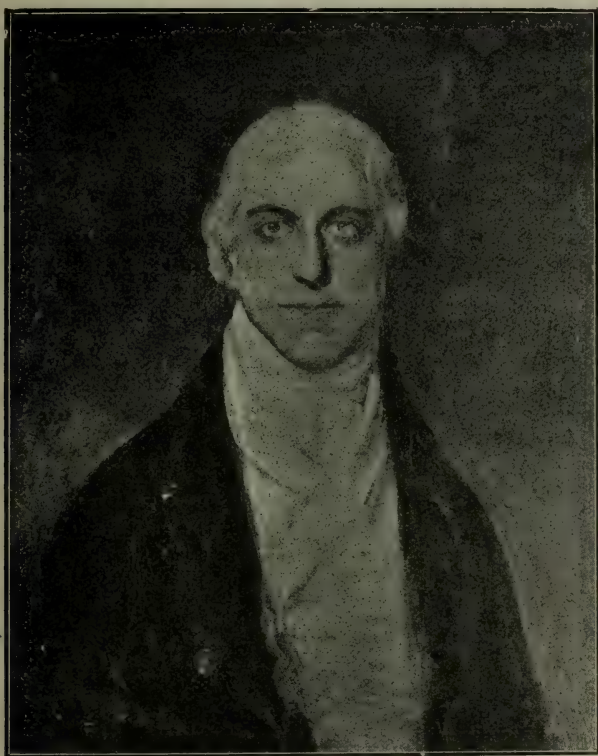
fifth part of his said Real Estate was thereinbefore given and devised to them the said James Cranston and William Cranston. And after reciting that upon the Marriage of his said Daughter, Cordelia Murray, he had settled an Estate upon her of the value of £3,000, and that since that time the Testator at the partar. request of his said Daughter advanced several sums of money for the use and benefit of the said James Murray towards his advancement in the Army and upon other occasions. And in consideration thereof they the said James Murray and his Wife had reconveyed to him and his heirs as far as in their power such settled Estates. And the said James Murray as a further security for the payment of the said money had given him his personal bond or bonds. The Testator did thereby declare that it was his Will—that such reconveyance of the said settled Estates should stand good and effectual in the law, and that the same should be considered and pass by his Will as and for part of his Real Estate. But it was his mind and desire, and he did thereby accordingly discharge the said James Murray of and from the payment of any money which might be due from him to the Testor, at the time of his death. And the said Testor, thereby constituted and appointed his said Wife, Mary Collier, the said James Cranston, George Worge, William Cranston, and John Cranston joint Exors. of his said Will. Duly executed in the presence of and attested by three witnesses. Proved at London by the Exors., Mary Collier, widow, the Rev. James Cranston, clerk, William Cranston and James Cranston, the 21st January, 1761.

MR. CAPEL.—3rd. October, 1764.—Henrietta Collier to John Cranston.—“ . . . We all supt at Mr. Milward’s last night, with Mr. Capel, etc., and I am to dine with him next Saturday to meet the Worges.” (Mr. Capel, a commentator of Shakespeare, was a man of singular habits and temper. He built a house at the bottom of All Saints’ Street and lived in great seclusion here, and for the last twenty years of his life he passed his hours from May to October, equally unknowing and unknown, for he was of too haughty a temper to associate with the inhabitants, and too much a humourist to be sought after by the neighbouring gentry. It is evident, however, from this and other allusions to him in the correspondence, that he was acquainted with the Collier family. Garrick frequently visited him, during his residence, and planted in his garden a mulberry tree, said to be a descendant of Shakespeare’s Mulberry at Stratford-on-Avon. He died in 1781.—Editor.) This house, known as East Cliff House, is now occupied by Mr. Gallop, and the interior decorations are in a good state.

ARTIST FOR ST. CLEMENT’S CHURCH.—18th May, 1764.—Mrs. Sayer to her Mother, Mrs. Collier.—“ . . . We went this morning to see the paintings in the Strand. That of young Mortimer’s is not likt at all, though he got the 100 guineas.” (It would appear that a prize of 100 guineas was offered by the Society of Arts for the

best painting of the altar piece in St. Clement's Church, which was awarded to Roger Mortimer, an artist of some repute. The subject was "St. Paul preaching to the Britons." Moss's Guide, p. 114, contains the following:—"December the 6th, 1721.—Received of Mr. Collier 30 guineas for painting the ceiling of St. Clement's Church of Hasting. R. Mortimer."—(This artist appears to have been chosen for two commissions at this Church.)

3rd January, 1765—Mrs. Collier to Mr. John Cranston—(Birth of Mr. Edward Milward the younger.) " . . . Mrs. Milward was brought to bed New Year's Day, of a son, and both very well,



MR. EDWARD MILWARD, JUN.

three guineas to the ringers, and soe quite overcome with joy, that he begins to calculate what he'll be worth." (The allusion in the last paragraph must, I think, be to the birth of Mr. Milward's son Edward, who appears from the registers of St. Clement's, Hastings, to have been baptised on the 3rd January, 1765, and this seems to fix the date of this letter as 1765. . . . Edward Milward the younger Married on 13th February, 1817, Sarah, daughter of the Rev. William Whitear, Rector of all Saints, Hastings.

and died 10th May, 1833, without issue. His widow married in 1846 William Earl Waldegrave, who died in 1859; and the Countess Waldegrave died 18th April, 1873.—Ed.)

SCARCITY OF LAND IN HASTINGS. Under date 24th October 1766.—There appears to have been a family Meeting upon the return of General Murray from Canada, having reference to some land adjacent to Torfield, which Mr. Sayer, son-in-law of Mr. Collier, thought should go with the Torfield, whilst others of the family differed from this opinion. An important remark of Mr. Sayer's bearing upon the value of land in Hastings at this date—"That the Torfield was not sufficient quantity of land to go with such a house as Mr. Collier's (Old Hastings House) *that it would be extremely difficult to get land about Hastings*; that part of Paul's land was already laid into the Torfield (with a conjunction of title) that the garden was being used by Mr. Collier, and the house so near as to be capable of being made a nuisance to the "Mansion," and that in Mr. Sayer's opinion, the Mansion and Torfield would sell better with Paul's land. (This remark of Mr. Sayer's that it will be extremely difficult to get land about Hastings, *would seem to be an indication that Hastings was already becoming a popular resort, or was thought likely to become so*, though it is also possible that it was an oblique reference to Mr. Milward's passion, more than once referred to in the correspondence, for buying up all the land in the neighbourhood that was to be sold, which made anybody else also wishing to buy, sure of a formidable competitor.—Editor.)

(In reference to Torfield House, the Editor has the interesting note—"My late Aunt, Mary Sayer, in her family Memoranda, says, Torfield House was bought by Mr. Milward of people named Wimble, for his daughters Maria and Frances to live in after his death, and afterwards occupied by them accordingly.)

MRS. COLLIER'S DEATH.—25th April, 1768.—Mr. Milward to Mr. John Cranston—Acquainting him of Mrs. Collier's death, and calling the Members of the Family to come to Hastings without loss of time. The Editor gives interesting extracts from Mrs. Collier's will.—As the wife and widow of the remarkable man whose life was so bound up with Hastings in times before local guides books were known; some extracts from her will are given by the kind permission

MRS. COLLIER'S WILL.—(Mrs. Collier was born in 1696, and therefore was seventy-two years old or thereabouts at the time of her death. She was buried on the 30th April, 1768, as appears by the registers of St. Clement's, Hastings. By her will dated 16th March, 1767, she desired to be buried in a leaden coffin, in a private, but decent manner, in the same grave with her husband (which, no doubt, was done). She continued:—"And as to the small sum I can leave behind me after my debts and funeral expenses are paid cannot be worth my dear Daughter's acceptance, having been so generously provided for by the best of fathers, I therefore dispose of the same in manner following." She then gave £50 to her Granddaughter and God-daughter-Maria Milward, to purchase a piece of plate in memory of her, to her Granddaughter, Cordelia Sayer, the sum of £50 for the like purpose, and to her nephews James, John and William Cranston the sum of £50 each," as the

least tribute I can pay to the Memory of a good brother and kind relative in every respect to me and my family, and will ever be remembered by me with the greatest gratitude." She then bequeathed £20 to several distant relatives and small legacies to servants of the family.) She proceeded: "I likewise give and bequeath to my dear daughter Cordelia Murray, my gold repeating Watch, to my daughter Mary Milward my single stone Diamond Ring, and to my daughter Jane Green, my Diamond Hoop Ring, and wish I had anything more of that sort for my other two daughters, but if after the payment of the several legacies before mentioned there should be an overplus, then it is my desire that my executor hereafter named should pay to my daughter Sarah Sayer, the sum of Twenty Pound as an acknowledgment for the tender regard she has always shown me, and it is likewise my request that my Grandson, Edward Milward, Junior, may have my dear Husband's Gold Watch now lying in my Closet. And Whereas my daughter Henrietta has advanced some money towards the repair of the Swan Inn in Hastings, which was at that time my property, my will and desire is she be paid by my Executor out of the arrears of rent as shall be due to me at the time of my death. . . . I also give and bequeath unto ten poor widows of each Parish of St. Clement and All Saints, Hastings, the sum of ten shillings a-piece to be given to such women as my Daughters shall think proper." Mrs. Collier gave the residue of her personal estate to her five daughters equally, and appointed John Cranston executor. (It appears from a Memorandum at the foot of the probate copy that Mr. Hall, Mr. William Cranston's former Clerk, had made an affidavit that the Will was throughout in Mrs. Collier's own handwriting.)

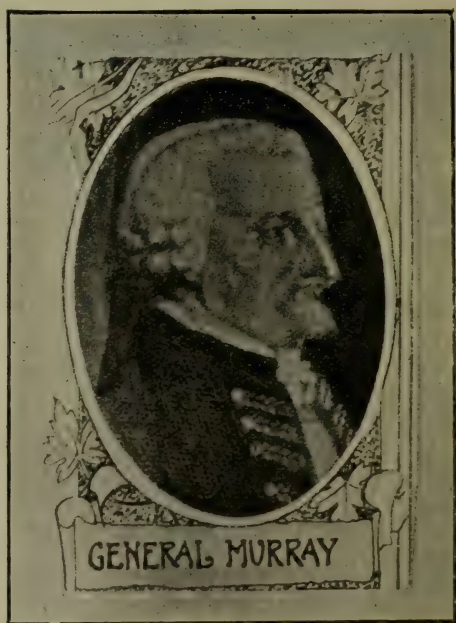
HASTINGS AS A HEALTH RESORT.—11th September, 1768—General Murray, from Battle, to Mr. John Cranston.—(It appears from this letter that it was in contemplation for General and Mrs. Murray to take the Mansion House—now Old Hastings House—paying the other daughters for their shares, but that General Murray had now a project of selling the stables, with "the little low garden adjoining," for £1,200. He says: "I am offered a thousand for them, and as the purchasers are a set of Gentlemen who have enter'd into a Subscription to make Hastings a Bathing Place, and think the Stables necessary for an Assembly Room, etc., I have little doubt of getting the sum I ask." The project came to nothing, but the fact that it was formed shows that Hastings was in 1768 beginning to be thought of as a watering-place.)

These interesting "Collier Letters" close with a letter of 17th August, 1780, from Mr. Milward to Mr. John Cranston.—"I am at present very indifferent (here follows details) . . . I talk of going to Bath, to which place I am strongly advised."

(Mr. Milward, with whose letter this correspondence ends, died in 1811, in the 88th year of his age. Mrs. Milward predeceased him in 1783, aged 58. There is a monument to them both in St. Clement's Church, Hastings, but with only a brief inscription).

(Mr. Milward senior was, according to tradition, all-powerful at Hastings, as his father-in-law, Mr. Collier, had been before him. He was Mayor 26 times and from 1785 to 1802 he and his son filled that office alternately. After that time Mr. Milward retired, but during the rest of his life his son was elected alternately with Mr. John Goldsworthy Shorter, the grandfather of our esteemed townsman, Mr. Henry Goldsworthy Shorter.—Editor.)

GENERAL JAMES MURRAY.—He distinguished himself at the battle of the Heights of Abraham, Quebec, where he was in command of a brigade. On General Wolfe's death General Murray was entrusted with the Command of the Garrison of Quebec, and he held the place till he was relieved by Lord Amherst. In the interval (28th April, 1760), he fought a gallant, but unsuccessful battle with the French. He was made Governor of Quebec in October, 1760, Major General in 1762, and Governor of Canada in October, 1763, which post he held till 1766, when he returned to England. He was subsequently made Lieutenant-General (1772), and in 1774, was appointed Governor of Minorca, where he remained till 1782, when he was forced, after a most gallant defence, to surrender the island to the French. During the siege the French commander, the Duc de



GENERAL JAMES MURRAY.

Crillon, offered General Murray the enormous bribe of a million sterling to surrender the island, perhaps reckoning upon his being a man of no private fortune. Murray rejected the offer with the utmost contempt. "When," he wrote, "Your brave ancestor was desired by his sovereign to assassinate the Duc de Guise, he returned the answer that you should have done when you were charged to assassinate the character of a man whose birth is as illustrious as your own or that of the Duc de Guise. I can have no further communication with you, except in arms. If you have any humanity, pray send clothing for your unfortunate prisoners in my

possession. Leave it at a distance to be taken for them, as I will admit no contact for the future, but such as is hostile to the most inveterate degree." The Duc de Crillon replied: "Your letter restores each of us to his place; it confirms the high opinion I always had of you. I accept your last proposal with pleasure." After this General Murray defended the island to the last extremity. As a soldier, indeed, his conduct seems to have been uniformly admirable.

On returning from Minorca, General Murray was tried by Court-Martial, in consequence of some charges brought against him by General Draper, his second in command (principally remembered by his controversy with Junius). General Murray was, however, honourably acquitted, and (with the object of preventing a duel between the two officers), General Draper was ordered to make him an apology.

He died on the 18th June, 1794, aged seventy-five, at Beauport, near Battle, now (1906) the residence of Sir Archibald Lamb, Bart., which house he built himself, and named after the Manor House of Beauport, near Quebec, which had been Montcalm's headquarters before the battle of the Heights of Abraham. At the time of his death he was Lord of the Manor of Ore, near Hastings (see Horsfield's "History of Sussex"); and there is a monument to his memory in the old Ore Church. When this old Church fell into disuse the monument was removed and placed in the new St. Helen's Church and may be seen there.

Sir Archibald Lamb was connected with the family of General Murray through marriage.

A Tablet to the memory of the General was placed on "Old Hastings House" during the Pageant of Heroes in 1914 and was unveiled by the Hon. C. Gideon Murray, Governor of St. Vincent, (a descendant of the General.)



ADMIRAL SIR CLOUDESLEY SHOVELL, KNIGHT.

HIS TRADITIONAL CONNECTION WITH HASTINGS.

I acknowledge with grateful thanks the ready and valuable assistance given to me by the late Hon. Robt. Marsham-Townshend, a descendant and biographer of Sir Cloudesley, in revising my proof of this portion, and the loan of the curious document accompanying it, thus stamping it with the authority of one who has studied and written much upon the question.—Author.

Every local guide book, from that of Stell, published in 1794, down to the present day, refers with pride to the connection of Admiral Sir Cloudesley Shovell and his Mother with Hastings, and any work on “Hastings of Bygone Days” would be incomplete without reference to the subject.

On September 5th, 1902, I wrote to the Hon. Robert Marsham-Townshend for any information he could give in reference to Mr. Brett’s contention that Hastings was the birth-place of Sir Cloudesley Shovell, and the identity of the traditional house of Mrs. Shovell, his mother. He replied as follows:—September 7th, 1902: “I am very much obliged to you for so kindly writing and promising to give me any information you may come across respecting the traditional residence of Sir Cloudesley Shovell’s mother in Hastings. I have put all the new points I have been able to discover about him into two articles in “Notes and Queries” of December 27th, 1884, and January 19th, 1895, and there being a very good memoir of him, by Professor Laughton, in the Dictionary of National Biography. At the same time, I am always glad to pick up any fresh details respecting him, and shall be much interested in hearing if you can find any entries in rate books, etc., that will corroborate the local tradition in regard to her probable residence there. She certainly returned to Norfolk, and was buried at Morston, in 1709. Brett searched the old rate books of All Saints and found no reference whatever to the names of Cloudesley or Flaxman, the latter being her second husband’s name.”

The Dictionary of National Biography has the following reference—“Clowdisley or Cloudisley Shovell (Admiral), baptised at Cockthorpe, Norfolk, November 25th, 1650. Engaged in many naval battles, including: Battle of Sole Bay, Bantry Bay, Beachy Head, Capture of Gibraltar, and finally subdued the French-Spanish Fleets. In 1707 was wrecked in his ship “Association,” was cast on the rocks of Scilly alive, was found by a woman who coveted an emerald ring he was wearing, and killed him. She afterwards confessed. His body was embalmed and buried in Westminster Abbey. The mystery which so long clouded the family history of Shovell has been cleared away in recent years by the researches among Norfolk Registers, by the Hon. R. Marsham-Townshend.” It would appear that much of the information contained in the

Dictionary of National Biography over Professor Laughton's initials, was supplied by the Hon. Robert Marsham-Townshend.)

In the Article in *Notes and Queries* of December 27th, 1884, the Hon. R. Marsham-Townshend writes:—"That mention is made of his mother in Sir Cloudesley's will, and referred to as Flaxman. She was buried at Morston, near Cockthorpe, and Cley-next-the-Sea, as 'Mrs. Ann Flaxman, widdow,' June 17th, 1709. Sir Cloudesley's origin is provokingly hard to trace." In the same Journal of



[Lent by the Museum Committee.]

ADMIRAL SIR CLOUDESLEY SHOVELL, KNIGHT.

January 19th, 1895, in a note, headed "The Parentage of Sir Cloudesley Shovell," he refers to the above, and having in the interval made a thorough search in the registers of several parishes in Norfolk, finding frequent mention of the name of Shovell, he succeeded in finding that of "Nathaniell Shovell, gent.," who was buried at Binham, near Wells-by-the-Sea, April 18th, 1636, and who bequeathed lands at Morston to his son Nathaniel, and his issue, and failing them to his son John. Of Nathaniel the younger he could find

no trace, but John was baptised in 1625, and this John was, in all probability, John Shovell, of Cockthorpe, the father of Sir Cloudesley Shovell by his wife Ann, daughter of Henry Jenkinson, by his wife Lucy, daughter of Thomas Cloudesley, of Cley-next-the-Sea. This last-mentioned marriage accounts for the introduction of the name of Cloudesley into the family. The baptism of Cloudesley Shovell, November 25th, 1650, was found in the Cockthorpe register. In Sir Cloudesley Shovell's Will his lands at Morston are bequeathed to his "mother, Mrs. Ann Flaxman." In an account book or ledger, kept with considerable neatness by Sir Cloudesley himself, now in the possession of his descendant and representative, the Earl of Romney, there are several entries, under date, July 29th, 1703, "To Joseph Jacobs, for a Calash (a small chariot) for my mother Flaxman, fourteen pounds," and after his decease entries by his widow, Lady Shovell, in which, on March 1, 1708/9 she entered, "To severall Legacys pd in Norfolk, to Mother Flaxman, etc., making together as per little booke 64ol." [This legacy is probably that referred to in some Hastings Guide Books—Author.] Mrs. Flaxman died and was buried at Morston, June 17th, 1709. Her will was proved at Norwich. All our authentic knowledge of Sir Cloudesley's boyhood is derived from Gilbert Crockatt, whose authority ought to be good, for he was rector, from 1691 to 1711 of Crayford, where Sir Cloudesley's Kentish residence was situated. Sir Cloudesley married the widow of his old chief, Sir John Narborough, and had two daughters, Elizabeth and Anne. Elizabeth married Sir Robert Marsham, fifth baronet, who was created Baron of Romney."

It is to be noted that throughout these investigations of the family history no mention is made of Sir Cloudesley or his Mother ever having any connection with Hastings.

Moss's History of Hastings, 1824, p. 149, gives considerable space to the Biography of Sir Cloudesley Shovell, from which the following is an extract:—"It has been stated in several publications of a local nature, on the authority of ancient traditions, that this gallant seaman was a native of Hastings; and a small tenement in All Saints' Street is still pointed out as the precise spot of his birth. With a view therefore, to ascertain the fact, the registers of both parishes have been diligently examined, but the name of Shovell was not discovered in either of them. The register of the Parish of All Saints', is indeed imperfect, about the *supposed* period of his birth, there being but one entry from 1648 to 1653; but in those times of anarchy and confusion, such irregularity prevailed, that nothing can be determined with any degree of certainty." (This search must have been carried out before 1824, the date of Moss's work, and Brett was diligently engaged for many weeks in more recent times with a similar result, besides a search in the old rate books.)

Moss, p. 150, says, however, "We have the testimony of a curious and rare tract, published shortly after the Admiral's lamented death, addressed to his widow, that he was not a native of Hastings. A consolatory letter, published in 1708, written to the Lady Shovell, by Gilbert Crockatt, M.A., and Rector of Crayford, a parish in which Sir Cloudesley's Kentish residence, May Place, was situated." In a preface, the writer proceeds thus :—"It may here be expected, that some account should be given of the life of the renowned Admiral Shovell, and his two sons-in-law. As to the Admiral, he was born in the year 1650 in the County of Norfolk, of an ancient family, chiefly considerable for loyalty, and plain downright honesty, which was, therefore, hereditary to Sir Cloudesley. Nor was it inconsiderable for estate. However, the good old gentlewoman, Sir Cloudesley's mother, being still alive, enjoys no contemptible competency, which has been transmitted for many years from father to son in the family, and being by her son redeemed from some incumbrance, was, by his natural affection, continued entire to his mother When he was thirteen years of age, Sir Christopher Mynns being then an Admiral, and most famous in his time, coming to visit this family (to which he was then related) desired to have one of their sons under him in the royal navy, and observed some things extraordinary hopeful, and promising in young Cloudesley, who readily and cheerfully agreed to go under him, as a *Gentleman Volunteer*."

Campbell's "Lives of the Admirals," and Entick's "Naval History, with the Lives of the Admirals and Navigators," are both silent as to the place of his nativity.

The circumstances of his parents have also been a subject of some controversy. Chalmers says :—"His parents were in middling circumstances." Noble :—"That he was the son of a *poor* man, and that he was a runaway apprentice of a shoemaker, in order to enter the Navy."

Smiles in his "Self Help" alludes to the Admiral thus :—"Shoemakers have given us Sir Cloudesley Shovell, the great Admiral." This quotation recently appeared in a local newspaper, and I wrote to the Hon. Robert Marsham-Townshend as to whether he knew of any ground for this statement, to which he courteously replied :—"Many thanks for your letter, in answer to which, you will find an excellent memoir in the Dict. Nat. Biog. giving accurate information about his origin. That he was ever apprenticed to a shoemaker there is no evidence whatever, and I have never been able to find any shred of support for the Hastings story, which appears to have been started long after his death. Is there any chance of his mother's name (Mrs. Flaxman as she had become by a second marriage), appearing in the Hastings rate books ?"

[I am not aware in whose custody the old rate books are, now that the Corporation is the sole rating authority, but if any official who may come across the old rate books of All Saints' or St. Clement's where the names of Flaxman or Cloudesley or Shovell

appear, will make a note of the fact, a missing link in the chain of evidence required, will be welcomed by all who are interested in this curious local tradition.—Author.]

The names of both Cloudesley and Shovell are very uncommon (they are spelt in many different ways) and that they are mentioned in the Hastings Corporation Records would afford presumptive evidence for belief that the family of the great Admiral were connected with Hastings, or that he himself or his mother may have resided here. The following are extracts:—"February 16th, 1590,—The Mayor, juratts, and commonalty, of the town and port of Hasting, did grant unto John Golden, of the said town and port, all that messuage and garden thereunto adjoining and belonging, with all the appurtenances, situate, and being in the parish of St. Clement's, in Hasting aforesaid, and now in the occupation of Robert Cloudesley." (Moss, p. 152.)

The Corporation Books show that a person named Cloudesley occupied a house in All Saints' Street, in 1590. William Durrant Cooper and Thomas Ross—Suss. Arch. Coll. Vol. 14, p. 110.)

T. B. Brett extracted from the All Saints' Parish Register a marriage between Robert Cloudesley (Towne Gunner) and Jane White. (Date not mentioned.)

In the "Collier Letters" of April 26th, 1755, Mr. Edward Milward, writing to his father-in-law, Mr. John Collier—"Last night" post brought me the melancholy news of the death of my cousin Molly Lintott, who died suddenly the 23rd instant. [The Editor of the "Collier Letters"—adds the following note:—"The lady, though referred to by her maiden name, had, in fact, then lately been married to a Mr. Cloudesley, as appears from subsequent letters of Mr. Cranston's."]

Mrs. Cloudesley was the daughter of Edward Lintott, who died December 1st, 1761. He resided at Bunger Hill House, near the present Ore Railway Station, and the house appears in the plan of the Collier Lands.

(This points to the fact that the family of Cloudesley existed in Hastings long after the death of Mrs. Shovell, or rather, as she was at the time of her death—Mrs. Flaxman.)

In the Chamberlains' Accounts passed 22nd June, 1657, the following place is mentioned, "A watering place at *Shovell* field." (As the word "watering" is commonly applied to a place where running water crosses a road, this may have been some part of the Bourne Stream, near the "Slough" at the bottom of Old London Road, or the Priory Stream, both being within the boundary of the Corporation Lands. I have not been able to identify the Shovell Field as being near "The Slough." The Torfield on the one side and the Pound Field on the opposite side of the Old London Road, were open spaces used when the Cattle Market was held at the top of High Street, and are both shown in the plan of the Collier Lands,

in 1750.) Mr. Bryant thinks “it might have been at the Pound, where the market carts put up. Here the Bourne Stream was nearly level with the road, and would make a good watering-place. The Bourne could not be approached in any other place by horses nearer than Courthouse Street, and here it was some feet below the level. Horses and carts went up its bed as far as the Creek.”

THE TRADITIONAL RESIDENCE OF MRS. SHOVELL.

In the *Suss. Arch. Coll.*, vol. 14, p. 107, in an article on the old houses of Hastings, by Thomas Ross, there appears a view of one, under which is a description, viz. :—“Mrs. Shovell’s House, All



MRS. SHOVELL'S HOUSE, ALL SAINTS' STREET,

From a Sketch by Thomas Ross in 1862, with the Passage at
the end leading to Wood's Row.

Saints' Street.” In this view the letters “H.C.I.S.” appear, being the well-known mark of the Hastings Cottage Improvement Society. This house is described by Ross (p. 108-9), as being “of historical interest, since it was the residence of the mother of Admiral Sir Cloudesley Shovell. It has been assumed that this gallant man was a native of Hastings, and the name of Shovell fields points to the existence of a family so called. The Admiral, however, was born at Cockthorpe, in Norfolk. The mother’s house was last occupied by *Susan Hobden*; it was partly pulled down in 1838; and No. 117, All Saints’ Street occupies the site.” Upon first noticing this view

with the letters H.C.I.S. on it, and reading Ross's description, that it was No. 117, All Saints' Street, and had been partly pulled down in 1838, it was apparent to me Ross had either chosen for his illustration the wrong view, or he had fallen into error in his description as to the number. I pointed out this fact to the Archæologists upon the occasion of their visit to Hastings in 1902, when I had the honour of describing to them the old houses still existing in the town. The house represented in Ross's view may still be seen, being Nos. 125-6, All Saints' Street; they were until recently under my charge as Manager of the H.C.I.S., but have been sold, and bear the mark



Photo 1911

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.]

MRS. SHOVELL'S HOUSE, 125-126, ALL SAINTS' STREET, as it appears to-day, with the letters H.C.I.S., as in Ross's View, with Passage at the end leading to Wood's Row.

H.C.I.S. These have always been known to the oldest inhabitants as "Mrs. Shovell's House." Mr. Alfred Bryant, an old Haster, 82 years of age, now residing at Enfield, who still possesses a wonderful memory, informs me he was born at No 128, a few doors from Mrs. Shovell's House, and has corroborated the tradition as to

Nos. 125-6 being her traditional residence. Mr. Bryant has been a keen student of the history of Hastings, and has written much on the subject. "Enfield, October 28th, 1911. — Dear Mr. Cousins, I agree with you as to the site of Shovell's house, and believe Ross has made a mistake. He is right in his *view* of the house, but wrong in his *number*. I believe he is also wrong in his statement that it was partly pulled down in 1838. No. 117 may have been, but not 125-6. No 117 was occupied in 1838 by Mr. Jeudwine, a grocer. No. 128 was owned and occupied by my grandfather, Thomas Tutt, next door (No. 127) lived a man named Pickett, a patten and clog maker ; then came a passage lead-



By Miss M. Johnson.]

Lent by the Museum Committee.

"THE HOUSE IN WHICH SIR CLOUDESLEY SHOVELL WAS BORN."

This Artist executed several Water Color Drawings of Hastings about a Century ago.

ing to the Bourne, and the *two* old houses adjoining this passage (No. 125-6) were known as *Shovell's House*.—Yours truly, Alfred Bryant."

Again, the view by Miss M. Johnson of the same house, about 1810, bears the description in the left hand corner, "The house in which Sir Cloudesley Shovell was born," this being the prevailing belief at that time.

The following extract is from the title deeds of 125-6, All Saints' Street, lent to me for reference. The Abstract commences :—"10th September, 1767, with the Will of Sarah Lock, who devised the premises to her niece, *Susannah Hobday*, daughter of Robert and

Susannah Hobday. (Note.—It is *Susan Hobden* in Ross's description, and a mistake might have easily been made in copying.)

I therefore think Ross fell into an error in the number of the house, but was correct in his view of the same, for the following reasons, viz. :—1. The view given by Ross exactly corresponds with the existing houses, 125 and 126, All Saints' Street. 2. The Hastings Cottage Improvement Society are the owners of 125-6. 3. They never owned No. 117 mentioned by Ross. 4. The number of All Saints' Street have not been altered. Therefore, the reputed residence of Mrs. Shovell still exists, and is represented by the view taken 1911. The deeds also prove that premises No. 125-6, formerly one house, with a garden running down to the Bourne Stream, and was, according to Brett, occupied as the Parish Workhouse. And



J. Rouse.

Lent by the Museum Committee

RARE VIEW OF MRS. SHOVELL'S HOUSE, ALL SAINTS' STREET.

afterwards, upon the garden, were erected Cottages, No. 1 to 12, Wood's Row, built by one, Abraham Wood, at one time lessee with Francis Emary, of the Swan Hotel.

The property was purchased by the H.C.I.S. in 1857, and the late Dr. Greenhill, one of the founders, and for many years the Secretary of this old Society, has left a memorandum dated 1857, that the house was then about 250 years old. It is timber-built, of massive oak and plaster, with stout oak flooring, and is a fair specimen of the houses of the 16th century, but is now much out of the perpendicular. No. 125 was used as the parlour, and 126 as the kitchen, with the usual extensive fireplace, with side seats and cupboards. This old house has now been sold by the H.C.I.S.

Account 18. *Recd*

Sum 4988

The 10 Day of March 1698

R Eceived then by me *ap* of
Edward Russell Esq

By Order Dated the 23 Day of *Nov*
— 1696 Maintained by Virtue of Their
Majesties Letters of Privy Seal, Dated the
30 Day of April 1696 Of
Thomas Howard Esq

One of the Four Tellers of the Receipt of Their
Majesties Exchequer, the Sum of *Four*
pounds Four Shillings
being for Six Months Interest of 300^l

due the 23 Day of *Nov* — 1696
And by *him* Lent unto His Majesty upon the
Credit of an Act of Parliament, (Intituled, An
Act for Continuing to His Majesty certain
Duties upon Salt, Glasse Wares, Stone and
Earthen Wares, and for Granting several
Duties upon Tobacco Pipes, and other
Earthen Wares, for carrying on the War
against France; and for Establishing a Na-
tional Land-Bank; and for taking off the
Duties upon Tunnage of Ships, and up-
on Coals;) And paid into the Receipt of
Their Majesties Exchequer, the said 23
Day of *Nov* 1696 As by a Talley bearing
Date the same Day appears, together with In-
terest for the same, after the Rate of *Four*
Pounds per Cent. per Annum; at the end of
every Three Months, from the Date of the
said Talley, until the Repayment of the Principal.
Witness my Hand, I say Received by me . . .

Four Months

In Ross's Guide to Hastings, 1st Ed., 1835, p. 37, he says :—
 “Sir Cloudesley Shovell said to be a native of Hastings, was born in 1650. The house pointed out as *his* residence is No. 117, All Saints' Street,” and makes no mention of his mother. These contradictory statements leave us in much doubt as to which story Ross based his tradition upon. Ross's account has been copied by all the writers of later Guide Books since 1835, while in his article published in the *Suss: Arch. Coll.* vol. 14, written in 1862, he drops the tradition as to Sir Cloudesley himself living here, *by changing it to that of his mother*, and gives no reason for doing so.—Author.

In closing this article on the hero whose name has by tradition been so frequently quoted by writers of local guide books as connected with “Hastings of Bygone Days,” and the claim that his mother's former residence remains to us, I am permitted to give an extract of a letter from the late Hon. R. Marsham-Townshend in returning my proofs of this article. “ . . . I enclose your proof sheets (with suggested alterations), and hope you will make as much or as little use of them as you please. I also enclose the two numbers of ‘Notes and Queries,’ containing my articles of 1884 and 1895, on Sir Cloudesley Shovell. They give the pith of all I know of his family history, and I have discovered nothing since.”

I think it may be fairly said that any persistent tradition is likely to have had some foundation, even when, as in the present case, there is no actual evidence, and the facts of there having been Cloudesley's resident in Hastings, and of a piece of land having been known as “Shovell's Field,” are clearly in favour of the tradition. If any really authentic documentary evidence should ever turn up, I should, of course, be very glad to hear of it, but, so far, I look upon Crockatt as our only absolutely safe guide with regard to the early days of Sir Cloudesley.

On the previous page is reproduced copy of the original curious document bearing the autograph of Admiral Sir Cloudesley Shovell, lent by the late Hon. R. Marsham-Townshend, especially for this work.

Another of a similar nature has recently been found in Norwich Museum, by Mr. A. G. Fidler, of Enfield, who has sent the following memorandum :—“Document dated 4th September, 1700, signed by Sir Cloudesley Shovell, one of the four Tellers of His Majesty's Exchequer, acknowledging the final advance of £28 on loan of £400 during the life of Elizabeth Shovell, towards the expenses of the war with France.” Elizabeth was the daughter of Sir Cloudesley, afterwards Lady Marsham.

The following was received from the late Hon. Robert Marsham-Townshend after the Article on Sir Cloudesley Shovell was made up for the press :—

“December 12th, 1911—In going carefully through all my Shovell notes, I have come across the enclosed which I had totally

forgotten.” The document referred to is in manuscript, and is entitled, “Extract from the Diary of Abraham De la Pryme—Under date of December 29th, 1697—I heard a gentleman say that was in the ship with him about six years ago, that, as they were sailing over against Hastings, in Sussex, says Sir Cloudesley, ‘Pilot, put neer, I have a little business a shore here,’ so we put nere, and him and this gentleman went a land in the boat, and having walked about half-a-mile ashore, Sir Clowdsley came to a little house; ‘Come,’ says he, to the gentleman, ‘my business is here, I came on purpose to see the good woman of this house.’ Upon which they knocked at the door, and out came a poor old woman, upon which Sir Clowdsley kist her, and then fell down on his knees, begged her blessing, and called her mother (shee being his mother that had removed out of Yorkshire thither). He was mighty kind to her and shee to him, and after that he had pay’d his visit, he left her ten guineas, and took his leave with tears in his eyes, and departed to his ship.”

The late Hon. R. Marsham-Townshend adds in his letter—“Grossly inaccurate as De la Pryme was in his account of the early days of Sir Cloudesley, it is most interesting to find that the *story of his visit to his mother at Hastings was already current in 1697, in the lifetime of both of them.*”

In the face of this interesting evidence there seems no reasonable doubt that Mrs. Shovell, otherwise Flaxman, resided in Hastings, and that Sir Cloudesley Shovell visited her at her house in All Saints’ Street.



SPORTS, PASTIMES, AND AMUSEMENTS.

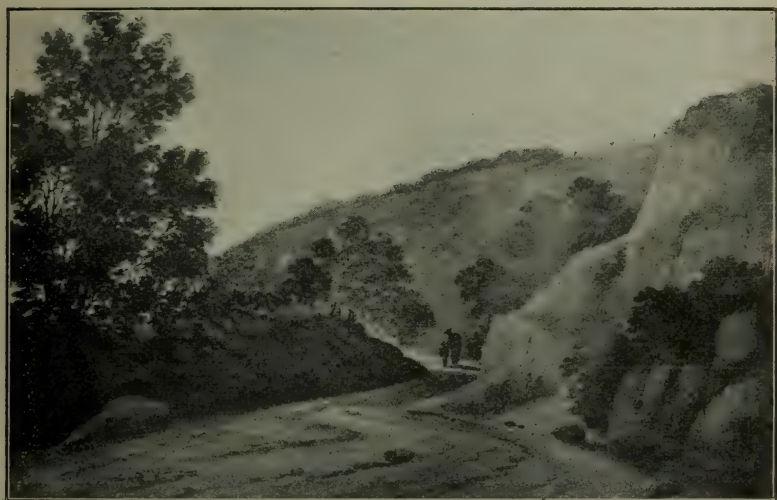
COCK-FIGHTING.—Turning to the “Collier Letters” for information on this subject, I find that Cock Fighting was one of the sports indulged in by the rich. In England this sport flourished for fully six centuries, and the cockpit at Whitehall was erected and patronised by royalty. A visitor to London in 1709 describes the Grays Inn cockpit as “round like a tower, with benches rising all round.” In a letter of January, 1746, Mr. Godfrey Webster, of Battle Abbey, writes to Mr. Collier at Hastings:—“Am much obliged to you in getting some Walks for my game cocks; I propose to send them tomorrow, if it is convenient to you to let me know the farmers’ names where they are to go, that I may send for them when they are to fight.” Cock-fighting was a specially sanctioned annual sport of public schools, the schoolmaster receiving a regular tax from the boys on the occasion, which was on Shrove Tuesday. In confirmation of this, one of Mr. Collier’s sons, then at the Westminster School, writing to him in 1749, informs his father that he had bought some good fighting-cocks.

FOX HUNTING.—This is mentioned in 1750, when Parson Woodward, of Fairlight, speaks of an invitation from Mr. Milward “to partake of ye diversion and exercise of a fox-chase at Fairlight.” At the present time the cliffs at Fairlight afford good sport for the members of the East Sussex Hunt. It is also recorded that on February 6th, 1824, Mr. Edward Wenham, a rich and sporting resident of 10, Wellington Square, entertained a large number of friends at dinner here after a Fox-hunt.

“RABBITTING.”—The Coney Banks, on the slopes of the West Hill, at Croft Lane (shown in the plan of the Collier Lands) was a rabbit warren, and, indeed, all over the Castle Hill rabbits were strictly preserved by Mr. Collier, and afterwards by Mr. Edward Milward, his son-in-law, for the purposes of sport for themselves and their friends. It is also reported that a man found guilty of wiring these rabbits was sent to prison for three months! At a later date, Mr. Milward mentions the fact that if this rabbit-warren was abandoned, he could find plenty in the Castle.—(See the “Collier Letters.”)—A view of these Coney Banks is given on next page. This particular spot has not much altered, excepting no rabbits are left. There is now a rough path from the West Hill to Croft Lane and Torfield over these Coney Banks, and they are still known and so called by old Hastings.

CRICKET.—When this still popular game was first played is lost in obscurity. The earliest matches of which scores have been preserved, were those of Kent and All England, decided on the Honorable Artillery Ground, Finsbury, in 1746. And the first written laws of the game were drawn up by a Committee of Noblemen and Gentlemen who met at the Star and Garter, in Pall Mall,

London, on February 25th, 1774, and are believed to be the first written laws governing the game, when scores were recorded by means of notches cut on the edge of a strip of wood. The following reference to the game is found in the "Collier Letters":—July 9th, 1745, from James Collier, from London, to his father at Hastings. "A great cricket match is to be played on Bromley Common, next Fryday, between Kent and All England. The Prince of Wales and all the nobility in town will be present. I hope you will not be angry if I don't set out from London till that morning. Mr. Rowe has promised to accompany me so far, and I am in hopes of entertaining the Club at the Old Swan Inn (Hastings), with particulars of the game, and will certainly produce another poem, because I know a gentleman who is ordered to attend on purpose." [This custom



By H.H.]

[Lent by Rev. H. C. B. Foyster

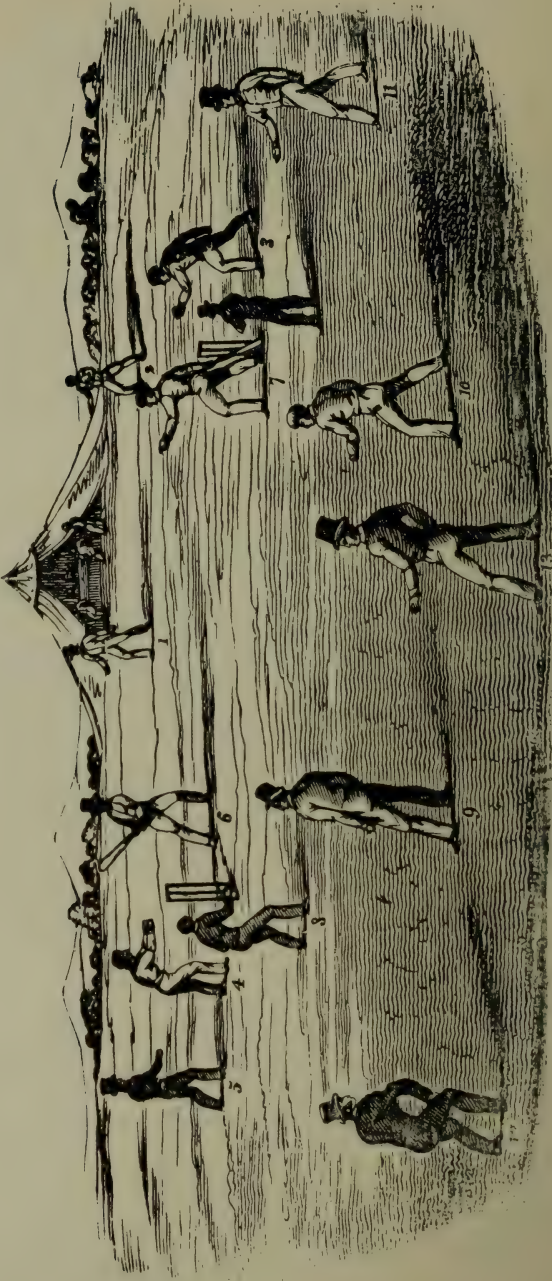
THE CONEY BANKS, CROFT ROAD, 1807.

was brought down to recent times by the cricket poet, Craig, now dead, who regularly attended the Cricket Week at Hastings, and enlivened the patrons with his poetry, ready wit, and smart repartee.]

It is probable the game was played in Hastings soon after the date above mentioned. On reference to the plan of the Collier Lands, there will be found a field (No. 33) called the Cricket Field, containing about seven acres, and may be located in the present Priory Road, near the Corporation Water Works. This field belonged to Mr. John Collier, and may have been set apart by him for the game as his son was evidently interested in it.

Coming to a later period the game was for many years played on the East Hill, near "Rocklands." The wood-cut on the next page was found in Ransom's old printing office, George Street, Hastings, and was used for illustrating the announcement of the matches.

CRICKET ON THE EAST HILL, 1825.



[Lent by Miss Clark.]

I am indebted to Mr. Thomas Parkin, J.P. (himself a gentleman-player of former days, who has preserved many records of the game as played in Hastings), for some interesting notes for this article. In 1825, Hastings may be said to have commenced its connection with first-class cricket; that year saw the birth, at a house in Wellington Square, Hastings, of Mr. Arthur Haygarth, the well-known gentleman player, and compiler of "Frederick Lillywhite's Scores and Biographies." In the same year also, Edward Thwaites, a tallow chandler, of Hastings, assisted England in a match at Lords. In 1826 was played a memorable single-wicket match at Benenden, in Kent, between Edward Thwaites, Fielder, and Sawyer (of Hastings), and three Benenden cricketers for a stake of £40, when Wenham, of Benenden, remained at the wicket nearly two whole days and scored nearly 100 runs. The first Hastings Cricket Club was formed in 1840, and amongst the members were, E. Thwaites, G. Standen, Sawyer, Baxter, Burchell, and Tutt. The matches were then played in a field on the West Hill, known as Thwaites' Field, afterwards Breeds', near where Collier Road is now, and not far from the Cricket Field mentioned in the Collier plan of 1750. Many records of notable Hastings matches in which such "lions" as Fuller, Pilch, Box, Alfred Mynn, and Lillywhite participated. In 1843 a great match was played against Brighton on the East Hill; in this match the late Mr. C. H. Gausden played for the visitors. Mr. Gausden, who was the founder of the ground at Hove, afterwards became a resident of St. Leonards, and a member for many years of the Corporation, as Councillor, Alderman, and Mayor, was the founder of the business of Gausden and Dawson, Auctioneers (now Dawson and Harden). In 1857 was formed the well-known East Sussex Club, with its ground on the old Race Course, in the Crowhurst Valley, St. Leonards. Its members included many leading residents who are now deceased: Sir Anchtel Ashburnham, Mr. Herbert M. Curteis, Sir A. Webster, Mr. V. B. Crake, Mr. W. E. M. Watts, Mr. E. Farncombe, Mr. W. Shadforth Boger, Mr. E. Hume, Major Stileman and others. Matches were played with the principal Clubs of Sussex. The first county match was played at St. Leonards in 1857, between Sussex and the M.C.C. In 1860 the East Sussex Club was dissolved, and a Town Club, called the Hastings United came into existence, the late Mr. E. Foster, a tailor (who died some years ago in Castle Hill Road), being the professional. The Club ground was on the East Hill. It was in connection with this new Club that Mr. A. J. Brook (Johnny Brook, as the crowd called him), a mighty batsman and a good bowler, came into notice; also the famous cricketing family of Phillips, Henry, William, Albert, James, and Peter, all five splendid exponents of the game, and playing in a match in 1874 for Hastings against the East Sussex Club at St. Leonards, the five brothers scored 174 out of a total of 241 runs. Henry, Albert and James, all played for Sussex County, Henry as wicket-keeper, and one of the best the County has ever produced, besides being a good bat. Excepting Albert, the brothers have all passed away.

In 1864 the new Central Recreation Ground was opened. The first grand match on this ground was between a United England Eleven and twenty-two of Hastings and St. Leonards. This match was memorable for the feat performed by George Griffin, of Surrey, who hit four consecutive balls out of the ground in one over off the bowling of "Farmer" Bennett of Kent. Scoring 6 for each hit. Talking of Henry Phillips, playing for Sussex against the Australians at Brighton, he made his century, and in 1872, Sussex v. Surrey, he stumped five and caught five, securing half the wickets of his opponents.

In 1874 another East Sussex Club was formed with Mr. Thomas (afterwards Earl) Brassey, as its patron, and Mr. Herbert Mascell Curteis, as President, but it was dissolved in 1878.

In 1877 cricket in Hastings was at a very low ebb; the author of this book called a meeting of townsmen at the Queen's Hotel, with a view of resuscitating the game, but failed to raise the enthusiasm of those present, and the writer resolved to take upon himself the responsibility of a match between the United South of England and 18 of Hastings and District. W. G. Grace captained the South of England team, and the Hastings 18 included the brothers Harry, Jim, and Albert Phillips. The match was a great success, and the game again revived in Hastings. Perhaps the local club which had the longest existence was the Hastings Central, afterwards called the Hastings and St. Leonards Central Cricket Club, on the Cricket Ground, President, Mr. A. J. Brook, followed by Mr. F. Ransom, Mr. Stanley T. Weston, and for the last 10 years of its existence, Mr. Thomas Parkin. This Club was dissolved in 1893. Afterwards followed a series of Annual Cricket Weeks, arranged by Mr. William Carless, and a Committee of local gentlemen, which formed one of the principal events of the year. Mr. Carless' mantle has now fallen upon Mr. W. E. F. Cheesman, who is proving a worthy successor. The Cricket Week was abandoned during the war and is now revived.

ARCHERY.—Some time after the founding of St. Leonards, Mr. James Burton created that delightful retreat known as the St. Leonards Archery Gardens, near Quarry Hill, and a Club was formed called the St. Leonards Archers, and in 1834-5, the Duchess of Kent and Princess Victoria, then staying at St. Leonards, became its patrons, and jointly presented the Club with an embroidered banner, designed by the Princess, together with the Victoria Challenge Prizes, etc. A view is given on next page of these beautiful grounds.

RACING.—The accompanying view shews the Race Course at Bulverhythe Salts. On October 3rd, 1823, the first annual Hastings Races came off here, when a Town Plate of 50 sovereigns and a Ladies' Plate of 50 sovereigns, and other prizes were competed for. Mr. Barton, owner of the land, Mr. Edward Wenham, the reputed owner of smuggling cutters, and Mr. Edward Farncombe, were the



By G. C. White.]

[From the Author's Collection.]

HASTINGS RACES, 1823.

Held on Bulverhythe Salts, Bopeep, St. Leonards.



[Lent by Mr. Thos. Parkin.]

THE ARCHERY GARDENS, ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA.

stewards. These race meetings were well-attended by visitors and residents. On September 14th, 1826, the Hastings Races were held for the first time on the new course, in the Filsham Valley, and were a great success, there being 6,000 persons present. Again, on September 29th and 30th, 1827, the Races attracted a great crowd, and Mrs. W. Camac's equipage, with costly trappings, and scarlet liveried postillions and outriders, was conspicuous, and upwards of 200 other carriages were on the course. A Race Ball in the evening at the Swan Hotel was attended by 200 of the elite of the town and neighbourhood. On August 30th, 1830, two years after St. Leonards had been founded, was the first occasion that St. Leonards joined with Hastings in providing the necessary funds for the Annual Races.

In later times, within the recollection of the older inhabitants, Races were held up the Crowhurst Valley, opposite The Grove, Hollington, when trains were run from Hastings and St. Leonards and London, dropping the passengers on the siding near the course. And later, they were held on Breeds' Farm, Ore, near the Rye Road. Then followed the annual and most enjoyable Steeplechases, in connection with the East Sussex Hunt, at Catsfield, near Normanhurst.

THEATRE.—“The Society of Hastings are gay without profligacy, and enjoy life without mingling in its debaucheries.” So said a writer, quoted in one of the guide books, in the latter part of the 18th century, at which time it stated the Corporation withheld its sanction to a theatre being erected within its jurisdiction, believing it to be an immoral innovation. The first theatre mentioned was provided in an upper room, attached to the Hare and Hounds Inn, Ore, which Inn is described as having a theatre on one side and tea gardens on the other, and had been for many years a favourite rendezvous for visitors and the officers and soldiers from the Halton Barracks. The theatre was a weather-boarded building painted white, and the public entrance was up a few steps. It is recorded of the late Thomas Sidney Cooper, R.A., that he began life as a scene painter at this theatre. The manager's name was Sage. On one occasion, Edmund Kean and Robert William Elliston were recruiting their health at Hastings, at a time when a strolling theatrical company was suffering great pecuniary embarrassment owing to bad business. This fact came to the knowledge of the two actors. They expressed a wish to see the theatre, where they found young John Baldwin Buckstone, a member of the company. The true position being made known, and that the poor scene painter, T. S. Cooper, had been robbed of a five pound note he had saved for a rainy day; it was arranged that a performance of “The Merchant of Venice” (Shylock, by Edmund Kean) and “The Liar” (Wildrake by R. W. Elliston) be announced for the benefit of their unfortunate brethren. The result was a packed house “from floor to ceiling.” The management were enabled to pay all salaries, make good poor Cooper's loss, and left sufficient to take the troupe comfortably

on to Folkestone and Dover. The Hare and Hounds Theatre kept its doors open until 1821, and on the 16th of October, 1823, Mr. Brooke obtained permission from the Corporation to erect a Theatre in Bourne Street, Hastings, an account of which will be found elsewhere.

Since writing the foregoing, my attention has been drawn to "Toole's Reminiscences," published about 1899, from which is extracted the following :—

"Mr. Toole quotes a story of Paul Bedford, relating to an interesting incident in the early career of the late J. B. Buckstone. The latter was engaged, when quite a boy, for utility business at Hastings, but Wombwell's show proved too powerful a rival to the Theatre, and the manager (Mr. Sage) resolved to bring out a strong new play, which was a great hit at the Surrey Theatre, with a view to retrieving the fortunes of the Company. In this piece the boy Buckstone was cast for an unimportant part, but he went out upon the Down (Fairlight Down) to study it. On the third day he was followed by a stranger (Edmund Kean), who soon got into conversation with him, and elicited the fact that young Buckstone was a member of the Company of Actors then playing at Hastings, and was studying his part. The stranger enquired how they were doing at the Theatre, and hoped business was good, when Buckstone replied that he was sorry to say it was bad. There was a wild beast show in the town, which had emptied the Theatre. The truth was, the Management was hard up, and if the new piece did not draw he was afraid they should all be ruined. A friend of his, Cooper, the scene painter, had saved a five-pound note for a rainy day, and kept it in his watch case, but the watch was stolen on the last night, and affairs were not at all rosy with any of them. The stranger desired to see the Theatre, and was shown over it by the boy (he had, I believe, seen it before, and the performance too, as he was staying at Hastings to recruit his health). When he was about to leave, a post chaise drove up to the door, and Mr. Ellison, then manager of Drury Lane, jumped out, and shaking the stranger (Mr. Kean) by the hand, begged him to return to London to appear there in a new play. To this the stranger agreed, on condition that Ellison remained at Hastings to play on the succeeding night for their unfortunate brethren. That night it was announced that on the following evening the pieces would be "THE MERCHANT OF VENICE": Shylock by Edmund Kean, and "THE LIAR": Wildrake by R. W. Ellison. The result was a house that enabled the management to pay all back salaries, to buy Cooper a new watch and note, and money enough to take the troupe comfortably on to Dover (playing first at Folkestone en route). Sidney Cooper, the well-known painter of animals, began life as scene painter at Hastings."

Since the first edition was issued, the Author has discovered the exact site of the Hare and Hounds Theatre at Ore, from a plan in the Corporation archives, and a tablet has been placed on the site, which was unveiled in June, 1914, by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree during the Pageant of Heroes.

ASSEMBLIES are mentioned in the "Collier Letters" as taking place every Sunday evening, with much tea drinking, at the Swan Inn, as early as 1745. A gentlemen's Club was held here for many years, where all the political and social news was discussed. Whist and cribbage parties, balls, and dinner parties were frequently arranged by the fashionable visitors and residents. Billiards and musical assemblies were provided at the Swan, Barry's and Powell's Libraries, and later on at the Pelham Arcade, which was opened on August 18th, 1824. From this period until the present Gaiety Theatre in Queen's Road was erected by Mr. George Gaze, the Hastings and St. Leonards public had to be content with the performances provided by the late Mr. Charles Lockey in the old Music Hall, Robertson Street, opened in 1858, followed in 1872 by the Hastings Pier and the St. Leonards Pier in 1891. At the present time, who can say the Borough is not amply provided with places of amusement.

CRICKET.—The following note was found too late to be inserted in proper order, but is worthy of recording here. On July 14-15-16, 1902, a match was played on the Central Cricket Ground between Sussex and Surrey, when all records in scoring were broken. Sussex made 703 for 8 wickets in 1st innings, and declared closed, and 170 for 4 wickets, 2nd innings, and declared. Total, 873. Fry, 159; "Ranji," 234 not out; Vine, 93. Surrey made 552 runs—Abel, 179; Hayward, 144; Capt. Bask, 122. Total runs for the match 1427, beating all records on the Central Ground.



SMUGGLERS AND SMUGGLING.

Charles Lamb, who was a visitor at Hastings, in 1823, wrote of smugglers :—" I like a smuggler. He is the only honest thief. He robs nothing but the revenue—an abstraction I never greatly cared about. I could go out with them in their mackerel boats, or about their less ostensible business, with some satisfaction."

Mr. Alfred Bryant, of Enfield, in writing of his native place, says :—"I was born there in 1829, and every nook and corner of Hastings of 70 years ago was known to me." And referring to smuggling he states—" No business carried on in Hastings was more popular and extensive than that of smuggling. Defrauding the revenue, so far from being considered a crime, was looked upon as being a laudable pursuit, and the most successful 'runners' were heroes. Nearly the whole of the inhabitants, old and young, and of every station of life, were, to some extent, engaged in it. It was attended with much risk, and sometimes loss of life, but being so lucrative, this was hardly a consideration. Fishermen, farmers, mechanics, tradespeople, and even some of those in authority, lent a helping hand in the transit and safe keeping of the smuggled goods, everyone being so much mixed up with it that there was never the slightest fear of any information being carried to the preventive men when a cargo was about to be run."

There are many of the old houses in the Old Town which would appear to have been openly planned and erected with various contrivances and secret places for hiding smuggled goods, which the present building bye-laws would make impossible. Most of these are known to the writer. In one case the "Smugglers Hole" is under the floor of a living room, in several others roomy recesses built in the walls each side the fireplaces and the openings hidden from view by the cosy seats, and in several others an entire double floor, with sufficient space between to take 40 to 50 tubs, the floor is loosened by a secret spring.

In "Smugglers and Smuggling," by John Banks, some interesting stories are related of Hastings Smugglers. Mr. Banks lived at a period when this illicit trade was popular. One who knew him described him as "not only a schoolmaster, but willing to engage in anything from smuggling to land surveying." Mr. Banks wrote from a personal knowledge of the subject. He says :—"In order to better understand how smuggling was so easy some sixty or seventy years ago (1810-20), it may be well to allude briefly to a few localities. The Smugglers had a curious way of naming different parts of the coast thus :—

"The 'Old Woman's Tap,' (now the site of the Royal Victoria Hotel) was a favourite rendezvous of the smugglers, and there was a place little to the westward of it, called the 'Stussels,' which was the scene of a curious transaction between a custom house officer and two noted smugglers, one Jammy Roper,

the master of a boat, and the other S——— S———, the principal owner of the cargo contained in the boat. The Custom house officer, who was a supernumerary, going down to the water, found Jemmy holding the boat as well as he could with her bow against the beach, he having come in by mistake before the appearance of the company, which, however, was in the immediate neighbourhood. The officer with characteristic bluntness d———d Jemmy as a fool for bringing in the boat before the company was there, as he had then no other alternative but to seize her. Jemmy in turn d———d the officer, and said, 'If you be a man, act as one.' In the meantime the principal owner had arrived on the spot, having left the company just behind the full (the ridge of



By F. Nicholson, R.A.]

[From the Author's Collection.]

THE GOVERS (OR COVEHURST COTTAGE), NEAR LOVER'S SEAT,
FAIRLIGHT—1812.

This view is reproduced from an original lithographic etching on stone, by Francis Nicholson, R.A., who made many sketches in this neighbourhood about 1812, which enabled the artist to copy nature in a marvellously accurate manner. Covehurst Cottage stood in a lonely position on a ledge of rock amongst a profusion of trees, shrubs and undergrowth, at the bottom of Fairlight Glen, and was inhabited in 1825. It became famous as a smugglers' haunt, and before its destruction by the sea, about 1830, was frequently visited by the public, who made excursions by boat and landed there, where refreshments could be obtained. It could also be approached by a walk along the beach at low water.

shingle thrown up by the sea at high water). A bargain was soon struck, by which the officer was to have ten tubs on condition of letting the others go free. The company was soon brought to the

boat, and the first five pairs of tubs ordered by the owner to be placed on the beach, and the men who brought them told to go and get another load. The boat was soon emptied, and the smugglers and officer parted with a hearty 'good night' on both sides. After the smugglers were well away, Mr. Custom house officer fired his pistol as a signal for assistance, to help him away with the 'goods he had seized.' Another, 'Jinns's Stool' was a large rock, near Galley Hill; 'The Slide,' a place near Rock-a-Nore; 'The Whippings,' the high cliff near Ecclesbourne; 'Robin Whiting's Hole,' just beyond Ecclesbourne; 'Broken Shins' and 'The Gringer,' farther to the east; and 'The Marrow-bone Gap' near Fairlight Signal Station."

"On the 13th of March, 1821, a fisherman of Hastings, Joseph Swaine, was shot in the forenoon, on the beach, by George England, a Coast Blockademan. Swaine's boat had come in, and it was the



By James Rouse.]

[Lent by Mr. Chas. Dawson, F.S.A

SMUGGLERS' FIGHT AT GOVERS POINT.

The scene of this] encounter between the Preventive-Men and the Smugglers while "running" a cargo of tubs is the Govers, or Covehurst Bay. Described in an early guide book as a bay with two horns, the eastern horn was known to the fishermen as Lee-ness point, and the western as Govers Point situate below the Cliffs near the Dripping Well and Lovers' Seat. Doubtless the smugglers are here making their escape up Fairlight Glen, a favourite landing place, as the Glen provided a good cover for getting away into the country.

custom of the Blockademen to search all boats on their arrival ashore. An altercation ensued about it in this instance, and Swaine forced England out of the boat, after taking away his cutlass, and throwing it into the sea. When out of the boat, England stepped back a few paces, and shot Swaine dead on the spot. One, Curly Taught, was shot through the arm by the same bullet, but did not know it until he felt the blood trickling down his fingers. England was tried for murder at Horsham, found guilty, and sentenced to be hung, but

was afterwards pardoned. This affair caused great excitement at Hastings. There is a tombstone in All Saints' churchyard recording the occurrence."

"In February, 1827, about twenty smugglers went down to the eastward of Fairlight. They wrested some muskets from the Blockademen, beat them with the butt ends, and run one of them through with a bayonet. The smugglers retreated, leaving one dead; another was found afterwards, having been apparently dropped by the smugglers; a third, some distance on the way to Icklesham, the body scarcely cold; the rest were carried off.

"During the time of the Coast blockade, affrays between the smugglers and the Blockademen were frequent and bloody. Nearly the last of those blood-sheddings took place," says Mr. William Durrant Cooper, "on January 3rd, 1828, near Bexhill; I have had an opportunity of gathering some of the particulars of this event from one of the participators, now living at Bexhill. According to his account a cargo of goods was landed at Mr. Brook's forty-acre point near Bexhill. It was a moonlight night, the moon being in the last quarter. The tubs of spirits were loaded on men's shoulders and in carts. A noted smuggler, a native of Bexhill, was captain of the boat. Of this man (now living, I believe), I shall have something further to narrate. The Coast Blockademen from Galley Hill Tower tried to intercept the smugglers, but finding themselves too weak for the purpose (the smugglers being armed, and having likewise with them sixteen or eighteen batsmen), they obtained reinforcements that raised their number to about forty men. They came up with the smugglers near Sidley, and here the armed portion of the smugglers drew themselves up in regular line, and a desperate fight took place. In the first onset a quartermaster, named Collins, was killed. Two batsmen were also killed; the body of one named Smithurst was carried and laid in the barn of 'Cramp's Farm.' When his body was found his bat was still grasped in his hands, and it was almost hacked in pieces by the cutlasses of the Blockademen. The goods were all got away, as were also all the wounded. One of the wounded men, named P———, was taken to his home, a lonely house near Windmill Hill, and the surgeon who attended him was in the habit of taking his horse to a gentleman's stables in the neighbourhood, putting him up there, and quietly walking across the fields to the house where his patient was lying. The smuggler became a cripple for life."

"The habit of export smuggling has been, for some hundreds of years at least, part of the system to which the middle and lower classes in Sussex have been trained. Large fortunes were made by it in East Sussex. It principally consisted of wool, from the sheep of Romney Marsh, and it came to an end only during the last war with France. The practice of import smuggling greatly increased

at the beginning of the 18th century during the Continental wars.”

About the middle of the 18th century the notorious so-called “Hawkhurst Gang” by their cruelties and atrocities were a terror to the whole district. The history of this gang reached a climax in 1747, and is told in an old book in the author’s collection, with the following title, “The History of the Inhuman and Unparalleled Murders of Mr. William Galley, a Custom House Officer, and Mr. Daniel Chater, a Shoemaker, by Fourteen Notorious Smugglers, with the Trials and Execution of the Seven Bloody Criminals at Chichester. Also the Trials of John Mills and Henry Sheerman, Laurance and Thomas Kemps, Robert Fuller, and Jockey Brown, condemned at East Grinstead. With the Trials at Large of Thomas Kingsmill and other Smugglers, for breaking open the Custom House at Poole. Written by a Gentleman of Chichester. Printed and Published by J. Williams, Portsea.”

The following is an extract:—“In September, 1747, one, John Diamond, otherwise Dymar, agreed with a number of smugglers to go over to the Island of Guernsey, to smuggle tea, where, having purchased a considerable quantity, on their return in a cutter, were taken by Captain Johnson, who carried the vessel and tea to the port of Poole, and lodged the tea in the Custom House there. The smugglers being so incensed at this fatal miscarriage of their purchase resolved to have revenge, and a body of sixty of them, all well armed and mounted, assembled in Charlton Forest. In the night, between the 6th and 7th of October, about 30 of them then went to Poole, while the remainder were placed as scouts along the various roads to watch the Officers and Soldiers. They broke open the Custom House, and took away all the tea. Daniel Chater, who met them on the road, gave information to William Galley, a Custom House officer. These men followed the smugglers on horseback, and came up with them, when their identity was betrayed, and they were seized and done to death in a most cruel manner, being put through horrible tortures.”

The leaders of the gang, Benjamin Tapner, of West Stoke, Sussex; William Carter, of Rowland’s Castle; John Hammond, of Burstead, Sussex; John Cobby, of Sidlesham, Sussex; Richard Mills, the elder, of Trotton, Sussex; Richard Mills, the younger, of Stedham; and William Jackson, of Welsworth, Hants, were found guilty and executed. And the gang was ultimately broken up.

“On January 1st, 1832, there was a terrific smuggling encounter at Warrior’s Gate, in which several of the smugglers were wounded, and three of them died. Several of the Coastguards were also badly beaten by the batsmen (men engaged to assist in landing the cargo). Two bodies of the smugglers were found under a hedge on the Gensing Farm. The cargo was seized, and consisted of 205 tubs of spirits.”

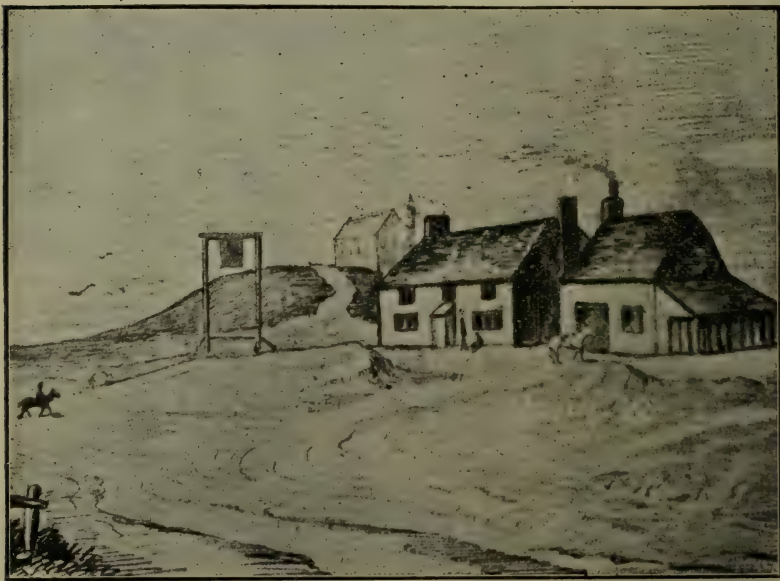
Again on the 27th of the following February another desperate affray took place at No. 40, Martello Tower, Bopeep, in which a Coastguard was killed and three others were injured, one dying soon after. On this occasion the Coastguards captured 150 tubs.

Such occurrences were frequent, and afforded plenty of excitement for the more peaceful inhabitants.

“WHY SMUGGLING WAS WINKED AT.”

Much has been written, and much more might be said of the doings of runners of contraband goods; for smuggling was the pastime, as well as the business, of almost every fisherman and

TWO WELL-KNOWN SMUGGLERS' HAUNTS.



[Lent by Mr. G. W. Wood

NEW ENGLAND BANK, BOPEEP.

This old inn, often mentioned in tales of smuggling, stood, a hundred years ago, on the rising ground now occupied by West Marina Railway Station, at Bopeep, St. Leonards, on the road to Bexhill. It is referred to in “Banks’ Smugglers and Smuggling,” and was the centre of a district often used by the smugglers, as offering facilities for running their contraband cargoes ashore, and the scene of frequent conflicts between them and the Blockade men.

tradesman of Hastings, until well into the 19th century. The following tale told by a tradesman of the town some years ago in the “Hastings News,” who was well-known to the Editor as a long-shore smuggler.

Sam B——, said, “Well, you see, I was never a smuggler in a real way, I never went to sea. I was only a long shore man,

and helped to land cargoes, and sometimes carried a bat, for fear of an accident, as the Irishman said when he took his shilelagh to the fair. I never exactly got into what you call a regular fight, but was pretty often very near it. Many a time a few of us have led the Blockademen a dance on the wrong road. If we meant to run a lot at Covehurst, we would make a show at the Priory, and pretend to be sneaking about the Rock Fair Ground, or further westward, by the Old Woman's Tap (where the Victoria Hotel is now). I have 'ticed the Government men near on to Bexhill, while our mates were running the tubs up Gensing way. If any of our mates were took, we never split on 'em. They were a true lot. Not a rat among 'em. I was never took myself, but had a narrer escape. once. That was the only time I ever felt tempted to knock a feller's brains out. Thank God I didn't! Well, a party of us was running tubs under the East Cliff, and I was on the watch. All at once



[Lent by the Rev. W. C. Sayer-Mulward.

“EGGLESBOURNE VALLEY.”

By H.H., 1807.

This view is reproduced from a Water Colour and is one of the many bearing the signature H.H., 1807. The identity of the Artist has now been discovered as Henry Hunt. It represents Ecclesbourne Valley (spelt Egglesbourne), another spot much frequented by smugglers as offering an easy means of escape. The stream shewn is still running, and from its direction it is to be assumed the view was sketched from the shore. The original Coastguard Station at Ecclesbourne was destroyed by sea, and the station has now been abandoned by the Government, and the buildings let for private dwellings.

a lieutenant and a lot of preventives jumped out of the holes in the cliff where they had been watching us. I gave the signal, and

our chaps left the tubs and bolted over the hill, and up the country with the preventives after 'em. The lieutenant, who was a plucky little chap, out with a pistol and let fly at me. Lucky for me that bullet had a billet somewhere else. It whistled past without hitting me. Here's in for it, says I to myself; life's dear anyhow, if it comes to *my life* or *yours*, why I prefer to save my own. So before my man could draw another pistol, I ran at him quick, and in a moment had him by the throat, with my bat over his head, as I felt mortal savage just then. But when I looked down into his face,—for he was but a boy compared with me and I was one of the biggest men in Hastings—somehow I felt soft at once. He might have a mother, so had I. So, dash it, I felt I couldn't hurt him for the life of me. He looked up quite calm like—he was a brave chap, and only doing his duty. I snatched the other pistol from his belt, and chucked it into the sea and says, says I, Now, lad, I don't want to hurt a hair of your head, nor I don't want a hair of my head to be hurt either. Now, if I let you go, will you wait till I get out of sight before you budge, and promise not to know me again if ever you see me? He gasped out—for I held his wind pipe tight like—"England expects—Yes, my lad, says I, and I expects too; so you had better be reasonable, and say, yes, quietly. Let me go and trust me, says he. So I lets him go, and trusted him; and that way he got off, and so did I—quick, you may be sure. None of the men were catched, but the tubs were nabbed. That didn't matter much, for two safe runs out of three paid us well. Old Tom T——t was the cleverest man I knew in dishing the Blockademen. One night he met a coastguard officer. They knew each other well enough. Tom touches his hat and says, "Good morning, sir." "Good morning," says the officer, "you've been playing your little game again, I hear, but I'll nab you next time as sure as fate, mark my words." "I don't think you will," says Tom, "and if I thought there was a chance of your doing it, I'd chuck up the business at once; your wit against mine, sir." About three weeks after Tom wrote him a note and says he's going to run a cargo on Thursday night under the East Cliff. Just before dusk a lot of us were told off to go to Galley Hill, and I and a few others were to wait at home for a call. About eleven o'clock we got a call, and was told to make our way to Covehurst. We cleared Tom's boat in a jiffy, and by three was at home in bed. The men at Galley Hill laid low, making an occasional flash light signal for a blind, till one o'clock, when they stole away quietly towards Sidley. We don't know what time the Coastguard gave it up. Tom sent the officer another note, it was only "My wit against yours." We often had a good laugh about it, but it was an awful risk.

(It is thought the man referred to was Tom Tutt, a noted smuggler, many years dead, but is remembered by some who are still living.—Author)

A VIEW OF THE WRECK OF THE NYMPH: A SPANISH PRIZE

[illegible]

From the Authors Collection.

WRECKERS AND SMUGGLERS STEALING THE CARGO.

From an Old Print.]

AN ACCOUNT OF NOTABLE WRECKS AND WRECKERS.
PIRACY AND PRIVATEERING.

Accompanying this is a reproduction of an old print “published according to Act of Parliament, June the 28th, 1748,” showing the Wreck of the *Nympha Americana*, a Spanish Prize, near Beachy Head, on November 29th, 1747. The inscription being so indistinct a transcript is given :—

A VIEW OF THE WRECK OF THE NYMPHA—A SPANISH PRIZE.

The *Nympha Americana* was taken by Commodore GEORGE WALKER, Commander of the Royal Family Privateers near CADIZ, and carried first to LISBON, thence to PORTSMOUTH, and after in her Passage to LONDON She was Unfortunately Wreck'd near Beachy Head, on the Coast of Sussex, November ye 29th, 1747, at 11 o'Clock at Night. She was Built chiefly of CEDAR, About 800 Tuns Burthen, had Ports for 60 Guns, her Lading Consisted of Superfine Velvets, Cloths, Gold and Silver, Laces, And almost every other kind of Merchandize. She struck upon ye Rocks, And left her Bottom some distance from ye Shore, Which had parted at the Rungs, afterwards broke asunder in ye Midships ; The fore part Overturn'd by which Accident 30 of the 130 Men that were on Board, was Drown'd. Her Bottom could not be found till December the 24th. From which was taken up by Persons imploy'd with their Boats, near 30,000 Pounds Sterling Value of Quicksilver, Great Quantities of her Cargo Were carried off by People from different Parts : 60 of whom perish'd on the Beach, Downs, and other places ; 1 was Shot and 1 Broke his Thigh, but Notwithstanding those Accidents, Great Numbers Still continued to Search, And often found some of her Cargo, So that this may Justly be Recorded, ye most Extraordinary WRECK that ever happen'd on any part of ye Coasts of this Kingdom.

- No. 1.—The High Cliffts from the Western part of Beachy Head fronting the Sea.
- 2.—The Cave where the Wreckers Fatally Drank the Spiritous Liquors they took from the Ship.
- 3.—Crowlink Gap, Tent and Battery
- 4.—Mr. Richardson of Allciston, Falling.
- 5.—The Passage Call'd Cook Mare Haven.
- 6.—The Projection of the High Cliffts by Sea-ford.
- 7.—The Shore at Low Water with the Wreckers taking the Merchandize.

Under the Boats at Low Water 12 foot, at High 36.

- 8.—Mr. Fletcher, Riding Officer, Who Secur'd a Great Quantity of Money for the Owners.
- 9.—Other Persons Stopping and taking Goods from the Roamers.

- 10.—The Exact Representation of the Stern Part of the Ship as it was left on the Shore.
- 11.—Three Portuguese Guarding it.
- 12.—The body of the Doctor who was Drown'd attempting to save himself by Swimming.
- 13.—A Small Sloop Sailing to Shore (persued by a French Privateer), Sav'd by ye firing from Crowthorne Battery.
- 14.—The Boats as they Appear'd with the Men taking up the Quick-silver.

Barroddell Lambert (Pinxt et sculp.)

Published according to Act of Parliament, June the 28th, 1748.

This wreck is referred to in the "Collier Letters," of which the following is an extract of an official report of the wreck made to Mr. John Collier, the Surveyor-General of the Riding Officers of the Customs, at Hastings, by his brother-in-law, Mr. James Cranston, and son of the Rev. James Cranston, the Rector of All Saints' and St. Clement's, Hastings:—"5th December, 1747. The Nympha, a Spanish Corsair, wrecked at East Dean, makes a sad noise in town; all the Council at the Bar retained one way or t'other. The Insurances from Portsmouth to the Downs amounts to upwards of £120,000; £30,000 of it ye Royal Exchange, £20,000 ye London Assurance; the rest an infinite number of underwriters, and what is very extraordinary, many of ye proprietors have insur'd her to their Companies, as Belchair and Ironside (two owners), £8,000 to other Owners, so as not to lose their own share, but have £8,000 to pay t' others, and none done at more than 4 per cent. The major part of the people will have it that she was run ashore on purpose."

It will be noted that large gangs of smugglers and wreckers were engaged in a desperate encounter with the Customs Officers, whilst plundering the valuable cargo, and many met their deaths by drinking to excess of the spirituous liquors taken from the ship.

THE WRECK OF THE AMSTERDAM—A DUTCH PRIZE.

This remarkable occurrence took place at Bulverhythe, a few months after that of the Nympha Americana, and is mentioned in the Local Guide Books.

I am enabled, through the courtesy of the Editor of the "Collier Letters," to give the official account of this wreck, in the following correspondence to Mr. John Collier, Surveyor-General to the Customs.

From Mr. Patrick to Mr. Collier, at Bath.—Hastings, 17th January, 1748. "Thear is a large Dutch Ship a Shore a bout half a Mille to the East of Bullverhithe, which I hope it will not be trouble some to give you a Short Account off, her names the Amsterdam, of Amsterdam, bound to Batavia in the East Indies, burden about 600 or 700 Tons, 333 men, 54 Guns, Capt. Williams, Klump, Commander, haveing on board 28 Chest of Silver, of which 27 are lodg'd

in the Custom House, but what value in each Chest is unknown, but some of them is as much as two men can carry, and this After noon one barrel is brought to the Custom House full of silver and I think as heavy as any of the Chests ; the one Chest as was missing is since found, but Empty, the rest of her Cargo in particular cannot learn, but in general they Answer, all sorts of goods. They have been at Sea 2 Months, in which time have lost 50 men by Sickness, and several more have died since the Ship has been a Shore. She came in Sunday 3 a Clock in the After noon, while the people was at Church with firing a great many guns."

From Mr. Worge to Mr. Collier, at Bath.—17th January, 1748. "Sunday last in the afternoon, a Dutch East Indiaman was drove a Shore at Bulverhith, and yesterday I rode down to see her, and from one of her Officers, who spoke a little English, I had this acct, that she was called the Amsterdam, of that place, and bound for Batavia ; abt 700 Tons and 52 Guns, and had, when she came out abt two months agoe, Three hundred men, abt halfe of wch had been lost by Sickness and washed over Board, and loaded with money, Bale Goods and Stores of all kinds. She was a new Ship, and had been all this time beating abt and never got beyond Beachy in her way. She Struck in Pvensey Bay, and Lost her Rudder, and has lain off Bexhill at Anchor Severall day's. Some of the Hasting people got to her and undertook to Carry her to Portsmouth when the wheather would permit, but she could hold out no longer than Sunday."

"She stands in a good place, and in appearance quite whole, and may do so for some months, But no possibility of getting her off. I Believe they will Save everything that is worth saveing, to the great Disappointmt of the wreckers who come from all parts of the Country for plunder, there was yesterday, when I was there, more than a thousand of these wretches with long poles and hooks at the Ends. But all the Soldiers on the Coast are there, and Behave well at present—they keep the Country people off, and their Officers keep the Soldiers to rights. They have carried to the Custom House at Hasting 27 Chests of money, and the other pt of her Ladeing will be carried to Hasting as fast as it can be got out. One Chest was Emptied of its money by somebody, and, as it's said, was so before it came out of the Ship. But it's gone, and by whome is not known. I could get no certain acct of the quantity of money, some said threescore thousand pounds, others made it a great deal more, and others much less. The value of the Ship and Cargoe is uncertain, but two hundred thousand pounds was the genl Estimate. There was three Women on Board, which are now at Hasting. When I was down there were then abt forty Sick Men in the Ship, which they afterwards got out and sent to Hasting. I saw Sr Chs Eversfield there who told me he was down when she came on Shore, and that all the Crew were drunk, and so were all of them I saw yesterday."

From Mr. Patrick, from Hastings, to Mr. Collier, at Bath.—
 “24th January, 1748. The Dutch Ship I have mentioned to you still sits whole, and the plunderers speed but very Indifferently, neither do the Owners save any quantity of goods, for the Ship is to much Swerved in the Sand, that it is Impossible to get at the Cargoe, the Ship being always full of water. Mr. Whitfield is down, and so is the Chief Manager at this Wreck. The Ship is on Shore in the Liberty of Hasting, and the Soldiers have shot a man Indiscretely at this Wreck, and Mr. Tilden, as Coroner for the Rape of Hasting, has been apply’d to upon the affair, to Summons a Jury to view the body and to enquire into the death of this p’son, but as Mr. Tilden is laid up with a fit of the Gout, he desired me to act as his Deputy, upon which I went over to Battell to him, and consulted him thereupon, as likewise Mr. Worge, who both Joyn’d in opinion with me that the death of this p’son was not to be Enquired into by the Coroner and Jury, by reason he was Kild at Sea, ten or fifteen roads below highwater mark.”

The same.—31st January, 1748. “I reced your last without date, and will take care to sieze the best Anchor & Cable belonging to the Dutch Ship stranded near Bulverhith. The Ship is really a Melancholy Sight to behold, for she lyes on Shore, upon a boggy Sand, that she is Swerved almost as high as her Upper Deck, and, notwithstanding all the Contrivances Imaginable, the main hatches can’t be open’d, so that it’s feared most part of the Cargoe in the main hold will perish in the Sand. They have Endeavoured to burn the Decks, and have made a bone fire thereupon, which had no Effect, notwithstanding they burnt, at one time, two hundred (? batt) faggots. They have also Endeavoured to blow up the decks with Gun powder, but as the Ship is so much Swerved, she always continues under water, that they can’t fix barrells of powder at a proper place for that purpose. Upon the Ships coming on shore, I waited on Mr. Coppard, and the Captain, in relation to making a protest. It seems the Super Cargoe had drawn a Protest before they came on Shore, which was Signed by the Captain & all the Officers which was shewn to Mr. Mayor, who thinks the same sufficient, as the Capt., etc., has Sworn the Contents thereof before him to be true, so that I have not in the least been Concern’d in th. Unhappy Affair, only that I have been twice to see the Ship in this Unfortunate Scituation. As Mr. Cramp is an Assistant at this Wreck, and is always present when there is anything to be done, and as he has a Deputation from the Duke of Newcastle, I have desired him to secure the Best Anchor & Cable for His Grace.”

“There was a Chest of Silver broke open the Night the Ship came on Shore, by some of our Town Gentm., containing a Great Quantity of Wedges of Silver, weighing about 5 pound each Wedge, the whole Value amounting to about £1,200 Sterling. On Mr. Whitfield’s arrival, he had it Cry’d round the town, if any p’son or p’sons who had taken any of these Wedges of Silver and would

bring the same to him, they shou'd have forty shillings p Wedge, and no Questions asked, otherwise, in case they were found Guilty, they wou'd be severely punished. Several of these Silver Wedges had been delivered to Mr. Whitfield, but am afraid he will never be able to get the whole, as a Great many of these fellows carry such Vile principles, for had not Several of these Creatures offered the Silver for Sale, I Question whether this Affair wou'd have been discovered."

22nd February, 1748, Mr. Thorpe (Mayor of Hastings) to Mr. Collier, at Bath.—"I doubt not but you have had successive accounts of the Dutch Ship run ashore near Bulverhith, since which the care of the Sick Dutchmen, the plague of quartering Soldiers, their and others theiving, has engrossed my whole time. This happening so soon after the *Nympha*, has destroyed the Morals and Honesty of too many of our Country men, for the very people hired to save did little else but steal. The Hoo Smugglers came in a Body, and Carried off Velvett, Cloth, etc., but on Warrents being issued, they submit to deliver all again. One of them stopped a waggon, and called others to his assistance to rob it. I committed him to Goal, and have since gott Mr. Nicholl to take the Examinations again, and he has made his *Mittimus* for Horsham. The Treasure of the Ship, amounting to near thirty thousand pound value, being sent to London has eased us of a Company of Foot, who were the greatest Theives I ever knew, they not only robbed at the Ship, but their Quarters also. The Dutch Soldiers & Sailors robbed their Officers, as did too many of our own Town. There was a Chest containing fifty Wedges of Silver, each weighing about four pounds & a half, broke open the first night, but by one means or other we have recovered thirty six, and a Gold Watch, but very little of the Gold and Silver Lace and wearing apparel. There are some Cables & Anchors, some Provisions, such as Butter, Bacon, Beef, etc., saved, also several Chest of Wine in Bottles, of which there is in the Ship a great many Thousand Dozens. The Ship is so Swerved in the Sand, that at High Water, the Sea covers her and at low her lower Deck is under Water. They have endeavoured to blow up her Decks with Gunpowder, sometimes succeeding, others not, the Powder being obliged to be putt under Water, but this Morning they blew up great part of the lower Deck, and its thought the composition next the Match being too dry, fired so quick, that Mr. Nutt the Engineer, perished

P.S.—The wine is French—if you would have any, please let me know, I fancy about 1 shilling a bottle will be the price."

There has been many attempts to salvage the valuable cargo from the Amsterdam. In 1810, when the German Legion was stationed at Bexhill, Colonel Halket permitted two companies to dig in the hold, but the water soaked in so fast through the sand they were obliged to abandon it.

In February, 1827, some poor people from Bexhill cleared out a large portion of the sand, and found various glass tumblers, metal

cups, stone and glass bottles, and casks of Dutch knives, but these were claimed by the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports. On April 27th, 1827, a Company of Shareholders began digging at the wreck, to recover part of the cargo, but the result was a failure. A few relics from the Amsterdam are preserved in the Hastings Museum. For many years the wreck was discernible at low water.

PIRACY AND PRIVATEERING.

Cooper, in his History of Winchelsea, says :—"The habit of smuggling, wrecking, and privateering led to the perpetration of many crimes ; amongst others, to a revival of those acts of piracy which disgraced the Cinque Ports in the thirteenth century."

Hastings figured largely in these lawless and dangerous pursuits, as the following will show :—"On August 11th 1758, Nicholas Wingfield and Adams Hyde of Hastings, masters of two privateer cutters, piratically boarded the Danish ship, 'Der Reisende Jacob,' on board of which was the Marquis Pignatelli, Ambassador Extrordinaire from his Catholic Majesty to the Court of Denmark ; assaulting Jurgan Muller, the master of the Vessel, and stealing twenty casks of butter. The Lords of the Admiralty offered a reward f £500. Nicholas Wingfield and Adams Hyde, with four others, having been betrayed by some of their accomplices, were arrested ; and on January 15th, 1759, were brought under a strong guard of soldiers, and lodged in the Marshalsea. They were tried at the Admiralty sessions, March 9th, 1759, and found guilty ; and on the 28th of the same month were hung at Execution Dock. The four others were acquitted. The punishment did not operate as a sufficient warning to the Hastings men. For seven years a gang known as the Ruxley Crew, most of whom lived at Hastings, boarded and robbed several of the ships coming up the channel ; and in particular in 1768, they boarded a Dutch homeward bound hoy, called the "Three Sisters," Peter Bootes, Commander, off Beachy Head, and chopped the master down the back with an axe. The Government sent a detachment of two hundred of the Enniskilling Dragoons to Hastings, to arrest the men, who had been betrayed by their bragging to one another, how the Dutchman wriggled when they had cut him on the back bone ; and a man-of-war and cutter lay off Hastings to receive the men. Several arrests were made of the parties, who were conveyed to the Marshalsea. At the Admiralty Sessions holden of October 30th, 1769, Thomas Phillips, elder and younger, William and George Phillips, Mark Chatfield, Robert Webb, Thomas and Samuel Ailsbury, William Geary, William Wenham, and Richard Hyde, were hung at Execution Dock, Nov. 27th. So great was the panic occasioned by these arrests that a shop-keeper reported worth £10,000, absconded on information of having bought goods of the smugglers."—*Smith's Sussex Smugglers.*

The following is a copy of an advertisement issued at the time :—

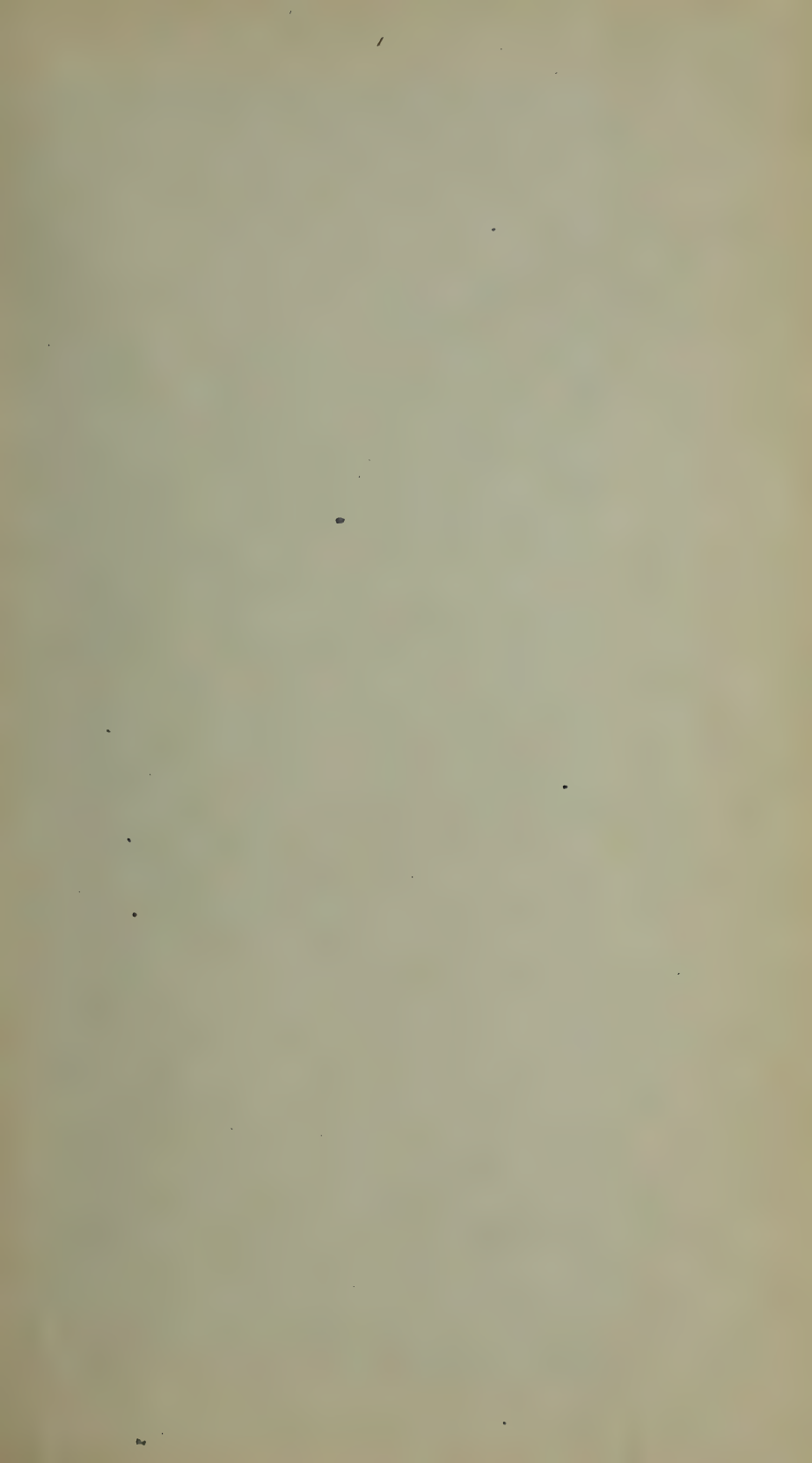
“Sale of a Privateer.—To be sold by Auction, on March, 1759, at the Swan Hotel. ‘The Fox’ Privateer Cutter (Richard Harman Commander) 70 tons, Carries 8 Guns (4 and 3 pounders), and, swivils. She has accommodation for 40 men. Is a good sailor, and quite fit for sea. Enquire of Thomas Breeds, At the Swan Hotel, Hastings.”

In front of what is now Breeds Place, several Privateer Cutters were laid up at the close of the French War, 1816. Privateering had been a popular pursuit of the seafaring portion of the townspeople, for though attended with as much, and perhaps more risk than smuggling, as every privateer carried guns, it was a pursuit that paid well. Nine gunboats hailed from Hastings, when the war was at its height, each mounting two 18-pounders; and eleven fishing-boats, each armed with two 12-pounder carronade.

I have already said that smuggling gradually died out about the first quarter of the 19th century, and one of the last old smugglers named Tilden lived in the Queen’s Road, Hastings, some 40 years ago. He was badly injured in his legs by a fall from the East Cliffs while engaged carrying tubs up a rope ladder, and he was always ready to relate his experiences to a willing listener. I remember him very well.

[The usual method was to go alongside, under the pretence of trading; they frequently mastered the crew, clapped them under the hatches, and then plundered and afterwards scuttled the ship. It is said that owing to these murderous acts, the Hastings Mariners acquired the appellation of “Chop-backs.”]





PLAN OF THE HOME ESTATE OF JOHN COLLIER, ESQUIRE.

Reproduced by the kind permission of the late Rev. W. C. Sayer-Milward, from the original at Fairlight Place.

It bears the following imprint by the Surveyor :—"A Survey, Measurement, and Representation of the Home Estate of John Collier, Esquire, situate and being in the Parishes of Saint Clement, All Saints, and Saint Mary of the Castle, appertaining and adjoining to the Town and Port of Hasting in the County of Sussex, with an Ichnographical Plan of the said Town, exhibiting on a West View, and the Eye considerably elevated above the Horizon, all or most of the Remarkables in and about the said Town and upon the said Estate, as Churches, Town Hall, The Swan Inn, the Gun Gardens, the Custom Boathouse, some Gardens of the Bourne, the Chief Streets, cross Lanes, Alleys, etc. The Castle Cliffs, the Bridge, the intended Harbour, the Priory, the two Windmills, White Rock, the Sea Coast, the small Craft in the Roads, etc., The Common Highways, Foot-Paths, etc., with Tables explanatory and suitable Embellishments, etc. This Map in all its parts was made and performed in the years 1749 and 1750 by me, Sam. Cant, School-master and Surveyor, etc."

John Collier came to Hastings from Eastbourne very early in the eighteenth century. By this plan, made in 1750, it would seem he had, during the half century, acquired a very large proportion of the lands in and surrounding the Bourne and the Priory Valleys, the East and West Hills, Halton, Ore and Fairlight; besides much house property in the old town. Although the "Collier Letters" commence in 1716, the following is an extract from a parchment deed lent by Mr. A. G. Fidler, of Enfield, a property owner in the old town, whose ancestors lived here. The deed is dated 13th March, 1711, wherein Mary Sargant and John Collier, as Executors of the will of John Phipps, of Hastings, Mariner, conveyed a messuage or tenement, Backside and Garden, butting and bounding unto the King's Street, there leading from the Sea Gate to the Minnesse towards the East, etc., to Richard Cosens for £19 : 00 : 00." This deed is signed by John Collier, and the wax seal bears his Coat of Arms. There is little doubt Mr. Collier was practising here as a Solicitor at this date.

I will attempt to make this plan interesting to readers by identifying the localities and the names with the present day. After the death of Mr. Collier, his estate was divided amongst his five daughters, one of whom married Mr. Edward Milward, another married Mr. Henry Sayer, and from these connections sprang up what is now familiar to the present generation as the "Sayer-Milward Estates." Thus it may be claimed that Mr. John Collier was one of the pioneers of modern Hastings.

The Plan of the Collier Lands is principally described by the names of the occupiers and the acreage, but I am enabled by the help of a plan also lent by the late Rev. W. C. Sayer-Milward and was made for Mr. Edward Milward, by Mr. John Shorter, in 1769, after the division of the Collier Estates amongst his children, in which plan the names of the localities and fields are given.

On the extreme left of the plan is White Rock, St. Michael's Rock with Wind Mill, The Priory House, and part of the Priory Farm on the West side of the Priory Stream, the Priory Bridge on the site of the Memorial, Water Mill House, on the site of the Gas Works, the Castle, the House of Mr. Edwd. Lintot, known as Bunger Hill House, near Ore Station, the Seat of John Collier, Esq., now known as "Old Hastings House," at the top of High Street, with its Gardens, Terraces, Lawns, and Summer House; the house adjoining on the right is Torfield House, and the water opposite with ducks is meant by the draughtsman to represent the Bourne Stream or "The Slough." Opposite the House is the Wilderness with trees, the Cucumber Garden, and the Stables, now a Motor Garage. The small cottages on the left are in High Street. There has been little change at this spot.

Other landowners holding the adjoining land at this time were Sir Whistler Webster, Bart., of Battle Abbey, The Rev. Mr. Edwards, John Crouch, Francis Cruttenden, Gent., Richard Tutt, Edwd. Lintot, Gent, Luckings, Moor, Ward, Benjamin Meadows, Lutzman, Henry Sayer, Esq., and others.

The reader must bear in mind that the present Queen's Road was a mere rough farm road from the sea, and that the Priory Valley through which it runs were farm lands, hop gardens, etc., known as The Priory Farm, Brooklands, Water Mill Lands, Blacklands, Hole Farm, etc., and after development for building, become known as Meadow Road, St. Andrew's Road, etc.

No. 56 on the plan was the Stoney Field, now the site between North of Wellington Square and South of Stone Street, while the blank space between No. 56 and the sea, was called the Priory Field, now Wellington Square and part of Old Priory Farm, which occupied about 190 acres. No. 57 was called the Boot Field, from its shape, and formed part of the Cricket Ground. No. 58 called the Brook Field, now covered by St. Andrew's Square and Brook Street; beyond this, the Water Mill Lands, now covered by the Gas Works, several fields called The Mill Banks, The Brook, the Lane Brook, and the Gate Field. These are known to old inhabitants as Murdock's Fields.

The main artery leading from the Priory or that part of Old Hastings west of the Castle Ward, was for ages, and still is, called Priory Road. It practically ran from the Priory Bridge up Castle Lane over the West Hill right away past Halton Church, and the Barrack Ground to the junction with Old London Road near Mount Road. Then on to Fairlight, etc. Taking the plan from the Castle,

No. 51 Little Croft, No. 50 and 49—Part of West Hill, Collier Road down to the Coney Banks. No. 48, The Coney Warren on the slopes of Croft Road, where rabbits were preserved for sport. No. 43 Croft Road. No. 44 called The Great Meadow, frontage to upper part of Croft Road and from Collier Road. Nos. 45, 46, and 47, The Tile Kiln Plot—now covered by Whitefriars, The Tower, The Lodge, etc., where Croft Lane joins Priory Road. No. 52, The Mill Field. No. 53, The Middle Field. No. 54, The Lower Field and No. 55, The Gate Field, is now represented by the west side of Priory Road, covered by St. Thomas, Emmanuel, and St. George's Roads. 37, The Pest House, Garden and Pond—now the site of Priory Road Council Schools. No. 36, called the Upper Pit Field, now site of Waterworks and Fire Station. No. 33, containing 7 acres, was, in 1750, called the Cricket Field—between the Water Works and Halton Church. Nos. 30, 31, and 32—The Road, The Kiln Field, and The Kiln Piece, afterwards known as the Barrack Ground, Halton. Nos. 1 to 8, The Toteye Lands, now the upper part of Ashburnham Road, etc. Nos. 9, 10 and 11, on the right of Old London Road, in the Valley from Mount Road. No. 12, The Bourne Piece, now Halloway Place. No. 13, The Pound Field. The Pound is still there. No. 14, The Hanger Field—Site of the Pound and Field adjoining, Old London Road. No. 17, The Small Hanger Field, under High Wickham. No. 18, The Hanger, near All Saints' Rectory. No. 19, The Garden to Rectory. 20, The Slow Field, now same. 21, The Parsonage Field, now same. 22, The Church Field, now added to Church Yard. 23, called Mount Idle—now part of East Hill, above Tackleway. 24, called the Long Slip Field, now part of East Hill. No. 25, called the Mill Field, now part of East Hill. No. 26, called the Pit Field, now the same. No. 27, called the Cliffe Field, now the same. No. 28, called the Great Pit Field, now the same. No. 29, called Beacon Hill, or St. George's Churchyard, now near the Cricket Pitch on the East Hill.

THE RISE OF HASTINGS AS A HEALTH RESORT
FORESHADOWED.

It would seem evident on reference to the interesting "Collier Letters" that even in 1735, the far-seeing Mr. John Collier had visions of the possibilities of Hastings as a health resort, when he sought to tap the Bourne Stream for an improved water supply. The town had been lighted with oil lamps, and some of the streets paved. Coaches to and from London were running twice a week. Then, in 1760, an article appeared in the "Universal Magazine," speaking highly of its advantages as a health and pleasure resort, stating there were several good families staying there; of the advantages offered by the Swan Inn, that there was a pretty good choice of lodgings, and an especial eulogy of its beautiful surroundings; and that its sheltered aspect was well adapted both in summer and winter for the habitation of those "disposed to pulmonary consumptions;" and of the discovery of several springs strongly impregnated with steel. In fact, the article deals with the advantages of Hastings in such a manner as would be a credit to a Borough Association Guide in 1920.

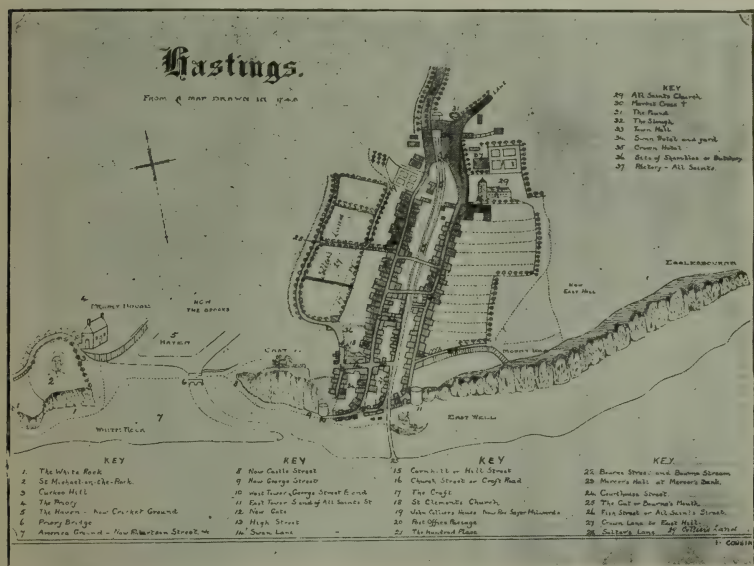
General Murray's letter of September 11th, 1768 (p. 71), where he mentions an offer of £1,000 for "the stables and little low gardens, belonging to "Old Hastings House" on the opposite side of the street (now used as a Motor Garage) by a set of gentlemen who have entered into a subscription to make Hastings a Bathing Place, and think the stables necessary for an Assembly Room." It was apparent that these gentlemen had the intention of exploiting the place, although this "deal" did not go through.

The late Dr. W. A. Greenhill, M.D., who compiled a population table of Hastings, gives the number of inhabitants in 1731 as only 1,636. In 1771, 2,017. While in 1801 it had increased to 3,175. The reader must bear in mind that up to this date the accommodation for visitors was provided by the principal Inns, and lodgings were let by the trading and middle classes in High Street, Hill Street, All Saints' Street, Tackleway, and George Street. The Bourne Stream practically divided the town into two parts, and gardens on the east side from All Saints' Street, and on the west from High Street, ran down to the stream; and as the visitors increased in numbers, these gardens had to be utilised for building purposes until the Bourne Valley became thickly populated, and thus the intervening passages leading from these streets were constructed for approaches to the houses at the back.

Hastings was as early as 1778 a Military Station, with an encampment on Fairlight Down, and as the 19th century was opening a considerable body of troops was stationed at Hastings, Battle, Bexhill, and Fairlight.

The accompanying maps of Hastings, 1746 and 1815, represent the transition periods when the town, after having been "*famous*

as a Cinque Port, and *infamous* as a seat of unlawful deeds, was to become once more *famous* as a resort for health and recreation." The Map of 1746 is well known as the "Corporation Map," drawn by one, Samuel Cant, a Schoolmaster and Surveyor for the Corporation; the key descriptions were added by the Author for the purposes of his lecture on "Hastings—Past and Present," and will assist the reader in locating many places which have become familiar in the present day. The towers at the eastern and western extremities of the Hastings Wall are shown, Nos. 10 and 11. Prioxy Bridge, No. 6. The Haven, No. 5. The "America Ground" or the Derelict Lands, No. 7. White Rock, with Windmill, Nos. 1 and 2. The Bourne Stream, now Bourne Street and Bourne Walk, No. 22. Mount Idle (part of East Hill), The Mercer's Hall, No. 23. The Shambles



Map lent by the Muscum Committee.]

[Key made by Henry Cousins.

MAP OF HASTINGS—1746.

or Butchery, Hill Street, No. 36. The Hundred Place, where Mayors, Jurats and Members of Parliament were elected in the open air, No. 21. Mr. John Collier's House and Gardens, Nos. 19 and 29.

The Plan of Hastings (Powell's), 1815, although published about 70 years after, shews little progress. Following the plan from right to left, it will be noted that Prospect Place is now called High Wickham, Old Hastings House was occupied by Mr. Edward Milward, Torfield House by Miss Milward, and the old house adjoining (Oates' House) appears. Mr. W. Lucas-Shadwell occupied the present All Saints' Rectory. Hastings House, which had been occupied by General Wellesley (Duke of Wellington), Lord Byron,



and Duchess of Leeds, is shewn on the site of Humphrey Avenue (see view). The Tackleway was then called the Walk under East Hill (see view). The Stade. Powell's Library (once Norfolk Hotel). Marine Parade, New Warm Baths. Barry's Library (now a Refreshment House and Tea Shop). West end of George Street and Marine Parade. The Fort. The Warm Baths (Barry's), where the Russian Gun is. Pelham Place (part of). Government House (late Coastguard Station). Ransom and Ridley's Shipyard (site of Royal Oak Hotel and Wellington Place). Castle Hotel and Stables (site of Gaiety Theatre). Priory Bridge (site of Memorial) (see view). Meadow Road (now Queen's Road). Watch House or Searcher's Office (site of Queen's Hotel) (see view). Rope Walk (now Robertson Street). Priory Farm (see view). Bohemia House (late Brisco's, now a College). Mount Pleasant (late Wyatt's) Windmills on West Hill (site of Plynlmmon).

HASTINGS OF BYGONE DAYS DESCRIBED BY TWO NATIVES—

THE LATE MR. JOHN BANKS AND MR. ALFRED BRYANT.

The following description of Hastings at the opening of the 19th Century is interesting. "High Street was the principal one, which contained the Town Hall and Courthouse, Custom House, County Court, Banks, The Swan Hotel, and the chief business establishments. Many of the houses were gable-ended, timber-built of oak or chestnut, of the Tudor style, of a picturesque appearance. All Saints' Street (otherwise Fish or Fisher Street) was paved with boulders, and chiefly inhabited by the fishermen. The Crown Hotel, with its extensive stabling accommodation, was, like the Swan Hotel, of some importance. Owing to the slope of the ground, ledges in the side of the hill had to be cut to level the street, and the houses on the east side, as a Yankee visitor has described, 'built on a shelf,' alluding to the high pavement. At the time referred to the streets were only partly paved, or lighted, there was no drainage, gutters ran along the middle of the streets common channels for soap-suds, dish-water, and other refuse. The Bourne Stream running through the town was partly choked up with brick-bats, tin kettles, and bits of earthenware of all sizes, shapes and patterns. This stream formed part of the water-supply of Hastings. Once or twice a week the water which had been kept back in a place called "The Slough," at the upper end of the town, was let down the Bourne for the purpose of flushing it, which it generally much needed. This operation was a source of excitement and fun for the inhabitants, who had to fill their household vessels with the water. George Street contained only 14 houses. There were a few houses and shipwright shops on the southern or sea side of the road, and was called "The Suburbs." The Tack'eway was once a rope-walk. A stable and stonemason's yard where Pelham Arcade now stands; a thatched house (where they sold gin) on the

VIEWS OF HASTINGS BY TWO GREAT ARTISTS.



[From the Author's Collection.]

FISHING OFF HASTINGS. BY J. M. W. TURNER. Date about 1815
From an Engraving by J. WALLIS.



[Lent by Mr. James Foster]

“MORNING.” A DUTCH AUCTION ON THE BEACH AT HASTINGS.
By DAVID COX. Date about 1820.

site of the present Castle Hotel, and nearly opposite, a lime kiln somewhere about where Nos. 3 and 4, Wellington Square are now. The site of Wellington Square was the Priory Field. A lot of small houses, slaughter-houses, block and mast-maker's shops and a rope walk on some land where Robertson Street and Carlisle Parade are built. This ground was built upon by anybody who chose to do so. It became a locality for the drunken and lawless, and it was not safe to pass over it after dark. It obtained the appellation of "America ground." One house near the top of White Rock; a lime kiln and lime-burner's house at the present Warrior Square. The Priory Bridge, where the Memorial is. A little to the West was the Priory Farm and House. The site at present occupied by the Hastings Railway Station consisted of a boggy reed-bed. At times, in violent rains, the Priory Meadows (the present Cricket and Recreation Ground) were frequently under water. Improved drainage has remedied that. On the Priory Bridge were two lamps, marking the extent of the jurisdiction of the Hastings Improvement Commissioners. The "Royal Victoria Hotel," at St. Leonards, occupies the spot that was the "Old Woman's Tap," a famous haunt for smugglers. White Rock, which consisted of sandstone rock, jutting out into the Sea. It formed a picturesque object, seen either from the West or from the East. The curve in the Parade at East end of the Baths marks the locality. Order in the streets was supposed to be kept by two antiquated beadles, dressed in blue great coats, with large capes and yellow facings, and large three-cornered hats, who could not have run fifty yards to save their lives."

"St. Leonards was, in its early days, known as the 'New Town,' or 'S'lennards.' Old Hastings, to whom all westwards of George Street was the 'Subbubs,' considered it an abomination, and its inhabitants foreigners. On account of the almost impassable state of the roads, the necessities, such as coal and groceries, came by water, and much inconvenience was at times sustained, and people were often driven to great straits when contrary winds or foul weather prevented the vessels from landing on the beach. It was a usual thing for those who could afford it, to lay in their ingredients for their Christmas dinner a long time beforehand, to prevent disappointment should the vessel fail to put in an appearance when due. For fowls, eggs and butter, they were chiefly dependent upon two Frenchwomen, who occupied a shop opposite the Anchor, in George Street, who imported their goods direct from France. Foreign eggs could not be obtained elsewhere. There were only two Churches, All Saints and St. Clement's, known as the Upper and Lower Churches, both being then united under one Rectory. There were no daily services. The musical part of the services at St. Clement's were as bad as could be. The choir of 'untrained voices' were accompanied by a clarionet, bass viol and flute, and they sang Tate and Brady's version of the Psalms to



[Lent by Mr. E. A. Notcutt.]

OLD HASTINGS AND THE FORT.
From an Oil Painting, 18th Century. Artist Unknown.



[Lent by Rev. W. C. Sayer-Milward.]

“ROAD OUT OF HASTINGS.” The Old London Road.
From a Water Colour by H.H., 1807.

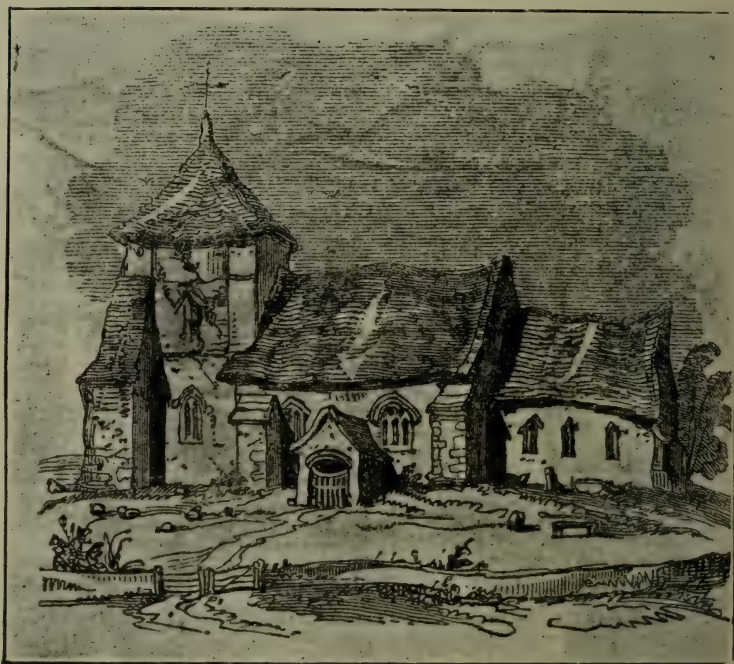
whatever tune they could agree upon. The fishermen mostly attended All Saints, and an official called 'dog-whipper' walked about the Church to keep order amongst the boys and to wake those who slept and snored. The congregation of St. Clement's were of a better class."

"The Town was badly off for amusements; indeed, there were few besides the Rock Fair held in the Priory Brooks for two days in July, and the town fair twice a year in the Fishmarket, and an occasional circus."



HASTINGS OF BYGONE DAYS—ILLUSTRATED. AN ITINERARY.

The highest altitude of the neighbourhood is Fairlight Down, from which the reader may start his itinerary, accompanied by a series of views of old and modern Hastings and St. Leonards, which the Author has been enabled to present in this volume, through the kindness and ready help of those possessing them. Commencing at Old Fairlight Church, 536 feet above sea level. It was distant from



[Lent by the late Mr. Chas. Dawson]

OLD FAIRLIGHT CHURCH, 1817.

Hastings about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and reached by the Old London Road, to Ore, then to the right passing the entrance gate to Fairlight Glen. From the Church a path leads to the Cliffs. The view from this altitude is one of romantic grandeur and extent, and in clear weather the French coast is visible. Near by was General Roy's signalling station, erected during the French War for determining the relative situations of the Observatories of Greenwich and Paris. It was of humble appearance, but its shingled spire had something of historical renown attached to it, for Leland in describing the inroad of foreign marauders about 1380, says :—" They entered by night at Farely

(the old name for Fairlight), where the high steeple is.” This Church was pulled down in 1845, and the present one built upon the site, which was consecrated in 1846. The late Rev. H. Stent, M.A., was vicar of the new church until his death. The Rev. E. W. Elliott, M.A., is the present Vicar.

Another prominent landmark for the mariner at sea was the Old Mill, which stood on the site of North’s Seat, above Ore Village, from which magnificent and extensive views of sea and land are obtained. The coast line from Beachy Head to the South Foreland, could be discerned, and included Winchelsea and Rye to the east. The Mill was destroyed by fire on April 21st, 1869, after which a large circular seat was provided, from which the visitor can still survey the grand view on the way from Hastings to Fairlight Glen.



By G. Rowe

[From the Author's Collection.]

OLD MILL AT FAIRLIGHT DOWN.

On the site of North’s Seat, with Hastings in the distance.

By a lane from the Seat, cross the Fairlight Road, through a wicket gate to the celebrated Glen, which is unquestionably the most lovely spot within the immediate neighbourhood of Hastings. Here is also the Dripping Well. A rugged path leads the visitor down the Glen to the sea. The routes for walkers are over the East Hill, or by Barley Lane over the Golf Links. Time has wrought little change in the locality during the century, and the beauties of nature are still enjoyed by many thousands of visitors annually.

From the Dripping Well the historical “Lovers’ Seat” is easily reached. It is situated on a ledge of rock just below the edge of the cliff, on an elevation of 339 feet from the sea below. The view

from here is a grand one, and the masses of rock, and thickly-wooded undergrowth down to the shore, form a picture never to be forgotten. The following narrative which gave the name to the Lovers' Seat is said to have been written by a representative of the heroine of the tale, and their portraits, the original of which was acquired some years ago by the Author, from an old inhabitant of Hastings, in whose family they had been for many years. Here is the true story :

" This spot first became notorious as the Lovers' Seat about the year 1786, when a Mr. Charles Lamb of Rye, an officer in the preventive service, succeeded in winning the affections of a Miss Elizabeth Boys, the only child of Mr. Samuel Boys, of Elford, Hawkhurst, in the adjoining county of Kent. Mr. Boys was a wealthy country gentleman, dwelling at the seat for many generations occupied by his ancestors. His brother, at the time we speak of, residing at Wigsil, Sussex, was in the House of Commons. Mr. Lamb's position in life was considered by the Boys' family to entitle him to no such pretensions as the hand of Miss Boys, and every effort was made to stop the marriage. Change of air and scene, it was hoped, would efface from the memory of the young lady all thoughts of Mr. Lamb. A farmhouse at Fairlight, in the charge of a trusty servant, was considered a fitting place for the young lady ; but in those days, as now, such efforts do not always succeed. Mr. Lamb commanded the " Stag " revenue cutter, and the cliffs at Fairlight became a spot on which his special vigilance was bestowed. The spot now known as the Lovers' Seat was with these two young people the place of assignation, and there it was arranged they should repair to London and get married, whether old Mr. Boys was willing or not. Accordingly, on the 16th January, 1786, these two young people presented themselves at the church of St. Clement Danes, in the Strand, and were there married. Miss Boys' father never forgave her, but disinherited his only child, and gave his estates to his nephew, the son of the brother already mentioned. By him they were shortly spent. Mr. Lamb left the revenue service and built a house, called Higham, at Salehurst. One daughter was the only issue of the marriage, Elizabeth Dorothy Lamb, who married the Reverend Thomas Ferris, the eldest son of Thomas Ferris, D.D., Dean of Battle, and for many years senior Fellow and Tutor of St. John's College, Cambridge. Mr. Lamb lived to see his daughter married, and with three children, when, whilst cruising in the Southampton Water in his yacht in 1814, he was drowned. Two friends were on board with him ; and at the time of the accident these two friends were below, Mr. Lamb being on the deck. The two friends, on coming on the deck, were surprised and horrified to find only the hat of their friend. In so small a craft, with no place of concealment, the sad truth at once became apparent. The boom, it is supposed, with a sudden gust of wind, had jibbed, and sent their friend, of whom no trace could be found, overboard. The body, three weeks afterwards, was washed on shore at Bognor, and buried at Thakeham, in Sussex. Mrs. Lamb survived her husband for many years, and lived to see the family mansion of Elford re-purchased by her son-in-law, Mr. Ferris.

A distant relation of the family, and the possessor of large landed estates, to whom Mrs. Ferris was heir-in-law, and who had always blamed Mr. Boys for not forgiving his daughter and for disinheriting her, at a very advanced age, forgot all his earlier views and sympathies, and by a will made shortly before his death gave his estates to other parties, thus crushing the last hope of the family of Boys regaining their old and honoured position.

Mr. Ferris had a large family, four sons of which now survive, the eldest of which bears the name of Boys, but without the ancestral property, and is the Rev. Thomas Boys Ferris, the rector of Guisley, in Yorkshire. Elford, the family place, was a few years since again sold for the purpose of distribution among the children."

Returning from Lovers' Seat, is Fairlight Place, charmingly situated at the head of the Glen. In 1786 it was occupied as a farm house by a Mr. Hilder, and referred to in the foregoing narrative as that in which Miss Boys was then staying. Fairlight Place is

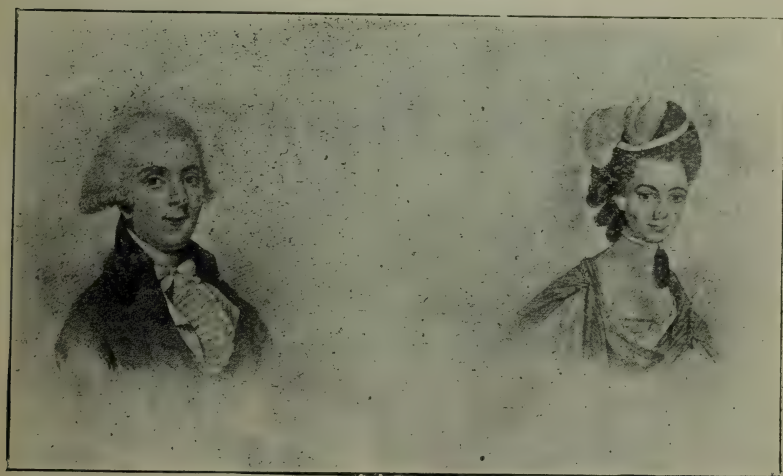


Photo.]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

LOVERS' SEAT, FAIRLIGHT—1920.

From views of this taken about 100 years ago, it has not much altered.



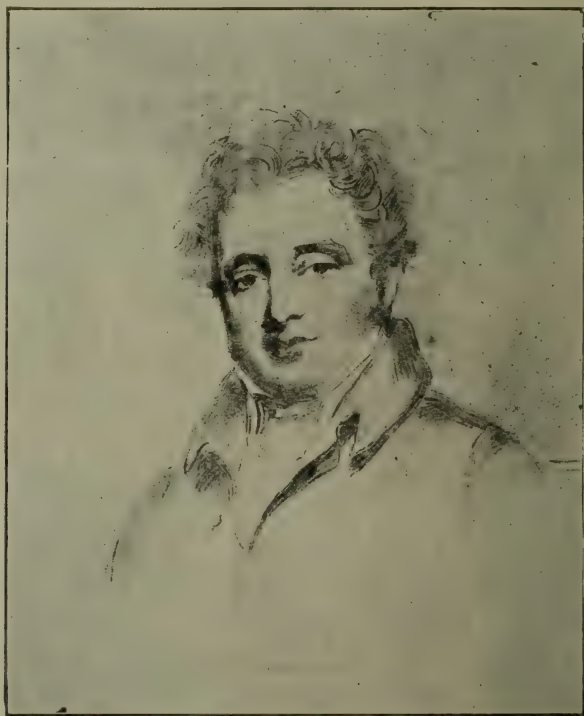
[From the Author's Collection

CAPT. CHARLES LAMB, R.N., and MISS ELIZABETH BOYS.

Dated 1786. The Hero and Heroine of Lover's Seat.

Published by Ackermann.

frequently referred to in the old guide books. In 1812, the date of the old view, it was occupied by Dr. Robert Batty. In 1819 by—Hodges, Esq., mentioned in Powell's guide. From 1835 to 1841, by the Right Hon. Joseph Planta, M.P. for Hastings, who frequently entertained distinguished visitors and residents. A portrait of this distinguished man is given here. He was a great benefactor to local institutions, and was the Chairman of the first meeting held for the founding of the Hastings Infirmary, now the Hospital, where his portrait will be found. In 1849 it was occupied by Mr. Batley, who entertained the Orleans family, with the King and their young



[From Author's Collection.]

RIGHT HON. JOSEPH PLANTA, M.P. for Hastings, 1835 to 1841, and one of the Barons in Parliament.

Princes (the Count de Paris and his brother), on the occasion of their visit to Fairlight Glen. In recent years it was the residence of Miss Rhodes, a sister of the late Mr. Cecil Rhodes, the South African Magnate, and is now the residence of its owner, Mrs. William Carlisle Sayer-Milward, in whose family it has been for nearly two centuries. Additions have from time to time been made to the house, which contains the family portraits of John Collier, Edward Milward, senior, and Edward Milward, his son, all of whom played such a



[Lent by late Rev. W. C. Sayer-Milward.]

“FAIRLIGHT PLACE,” FAIRLIGHT GLEN, 1812.

(Occupied at this date by Dr. Robert Batty.)



Photo.]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd

“FAIRLIGHT PLACE,” as it now appears, 1920.

(Photographed for this book by the special permission of the late Rev. W. C. Sayer-Milward.)

prominent part as Barons and Mayors of this Old Cinque Port. And on its walls are to be found a large and interesting collection of views of Hastings of Bygone Days, several of which the Author has been permitted to reproduce in this work.

Leaving Fairlight Place by way of the Fairlight Road through Ore (once called Oare), the accompanying view from North's Seat the first peep of Old Hastings is seen at the South end of the Valley, with the East and West Hills, the latter crowned with the ruins of the Castle, and the Windmills, which are a prominent feature in many succeeding pictures.



C. Scott.

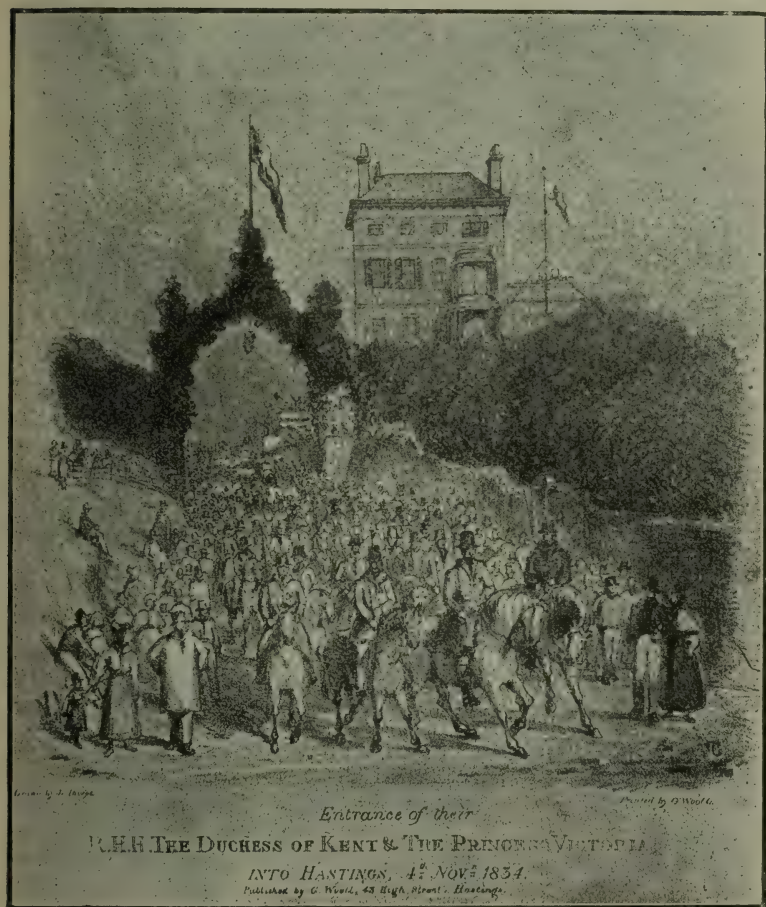
[Lent by Mr. T. Parkin.]

VIEW OF HASTINGS FROM FAIRLIGHT DOWN, 1800.

Passing down the Old London Road, the next view shows the late Mr. Frederick North's House (now called Hastings Lodge, occupied as a Convent). He was the Liberal Member for Hastings several times, from 1832 (Reform Bill Year) until his death. He last sat for Hastings when returned with the then Mr. Thomas Brassey, in 1868. The procession represents the entrance of their R.H.H. the Duchess of Kent and the Princess Victoria into Hastings, 4th November, 1834, when visiting St. Leonards. This view was published by G. Wooll, Printseller, 43, High Street, Hastings (now Reeves and Son's Furniture Shop).

The entrance to Hastings by the Old London Road is very picturesque, and has been delineated by many artists. The beautiful avenue of elm trees is said to have been originally planted by Mr. John Collier at the suggestion of his friend and patron, the Duke

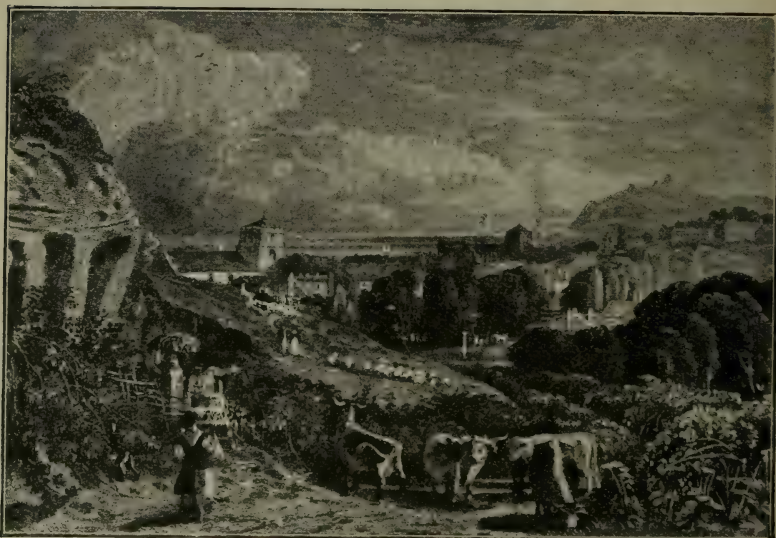
of Newcastle, although the writer has discovered no mention of this in the "Collier Letters." The reader must remember that until well into the 19th Century, before the Bohemia Road and London Road, St. Leonards, were opened, the Old London Road was the only one out of Hastings. The Sussex roads were for centuries execrable for travelling, and in the "Collier Letters," there are accounts of the equipages of the rich requiring six horses, attended by outriders,



[Engraved by J. Large.]

[Printed by G. Wood.]

being necessary to assist in pulling the carriages out of the mud and quagmires into which they frequently got, on their way to and from London, and sometimes a more circuitous route from Hastings through Maidstone was preferred, as the Kentish roads were kept in a better condition. The accompanying views of the North entrance to the old town will give an idea of its former beauty.



By W. Havell.

[From the Author's Collection.]

HASTINGS—FROM THE MINNIS ROCK, HIGH WICKHAM. DATED 1821.



By Arundale.

[Lent by Mr. Thos. Parkin.]

NORTH ENTRANCE TO HASTINGS—FROM BARLEY LANE IN THE COACHING DAYS.

HASTINGS—FROM THE MINNIS ROCK, HIGH WICKHAM.

The Minnis Rock, with three openings, has existed for centuries, and those possessing old property in All Saints' Street, will, on reference to their deeds, invariably find it described "as bounding and butting unto the King's High Way, there leading from the Sea Gate to the Minnis," or sometimes spelt "Minnesse," denoting that the place was a prominent boundary mark in the very remote times. It is supposed by some to be an instance of a rock hermitage and the only one, except at Buxteds, in this county. Moss mentions that, in 1783, this "cave" was inhabited by an aged couple, who were discharged from the Workhouse for some misbehaviour, and eked out a miserable existence here, sleeping on the bare rock, and picked up such casual donations as the passers by who visited the spot gave them. The Minnis is now much neglected, and the arches choked up with rubbish, although the Corporation has placed a cautionary notice board near by. There are so few landmarks of "Bygone Days" left to us, that the Corporation would be wise if the Minnis was cleaned out and kept as a show place, with a descriptive reference of its antiquity placed upon it.

NORTH ENTRANCE TO HASTINGS—FROM BARLEY LANE IN THE COACHING DAYS.

This view shews one of the coaches leaving Hastings, going up the Old London Road, and a picnic party on the slopes leading up to High Wickham, (originally named Prospect Place—see Powell's Plan), with All Saints' Church and the open space where the Old Market was.

OLD HASTINGS FROM THE TORFIELD—NORTH ENTRANCE.

The houses in the left-hand foreground are Old Hastings House and Torfield House; All Saints' Church, near it is Hastings House, described elsewhere, and above it is shown the carved rock on the face of the East Hill, with three lancet-shaped carvings intended to represent windows, by whom and with what object this carving was done is not known. The writer recently visited this spot, which is easily reached from the summit of the hill, from which there is a fine view of the Old Town, the Castle, and Beachy Head. These carvings are cut in to a depth of six or eight inches, and in front of the rock is a plateau. Some years ago Mr. A. Pain, of Ashburnham Road, who is a native of Hastings, made excavations here, but was unsuccessful in bringing to light any results of antiquarian importance. It was once a favourite rendezvous for smugglers, who frequented the spot to partake of brandy and milk, and to spin yarns of their encounters with the Blockade Men.

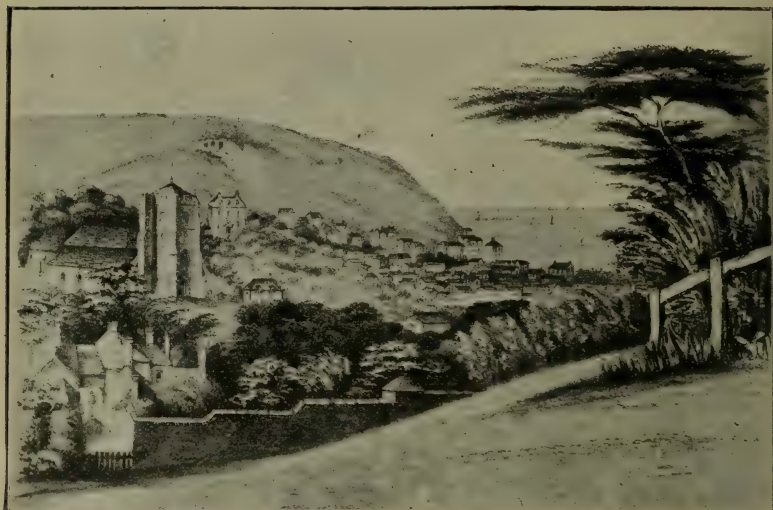
HASTINGS FROM THE NORTH.

Shewing High Wickham, the Cupola, All Saints' Church, on the right the late Mr. Frederick North's house—Hastings Lodge—and the Castle and Windmills on the West Hill.

We now approach the north entrance to the old Cinque Port in the Bourne Valley, or that "New Burg" which sprang up after the Battle of Hastings, and was divided by the Bourne Stream which had its rise on the Fairlight Down.

THE BOURNE STREAM.

It is referred to by all the best known Authorities in Guide Books, and shewn in all the maps known to us. Jeake, the Historian of the Cinque Ports (1737), called it a "Freshwater." Barry, in his Guide to Hastings (1797), states "Hastings is abundantly supplied with most excellent fresh water from the Bourne Stream,



By T. Turnen.]

[Lent by Mr. T. Parkin.]

OLD HASTINGS FROM THE TORFIELD—NORTH ENTRANCE, ABOUT
1820.



[Lent by Mr. T. Parkin.]

HASTINGS FROM THE NORTH.

which runs through the middle of the Town and is exceedingly good for all culinary purposes." Moss, in his *History of Hastings* (1824), says, "The source of the Bourne Stream is not properly traced." The writer has recently followed the bed of this Stream from the Sea through Bourne Street, Bourne Walk, through the grounds known as the Wilderness at the junction of High Street and All Saints' Street, where it was crossed by a rough bridge, shewn in several views. Under this bridge there was a sluice or flood-gate, which may still be defined in the stonework marked by a boundary stone, with letters denoting the division of the two parishes of St. Clement and All Saints. From the Wilderness on the north side of this spot, now laid out by the Corporation as a garden enclosed by railings, is the place formerly known as the "Slough," where the Stream was dammed back by shutting down the flood-gate. A



By Francis Nicholson, R.A., 1812.

From the Author's Collection.

"THE SLOUGH" AND FLOOD GATE OF THE BOURNE STREAM,
at the top of All Saints' Street and High Street.

view of the water is here shewn, drawn by Francis Nicholson, R.A., over a hundred years ago. From this spot the bed of the Stream may be traced on the right hand side of Old London Road, by the Pound, through Halloway Place, the grounds of the Laurels, Belmont, thence to the reservoir parallel with Harold Road, through the Pindars, to the Fairlight Road, on the Tiln Kiln Farm. Here is a culvert, and, upon asking information of an old man, was informed that the Stream in his recollection ran from Fairlight Down near Fairlight Place to a pond opposite the entrance gate to Fairlight Glen, and during stormy weather ran over the roadway, now the

Fairlight Road, and the formation of the ground above the pond alluded to (in which there is a grating for the overflow), would give one the impression of the bed of a former water-course. From this spot all further trace is lost.

However, the Bourne Stream played an important part in the history of Hastings, as it provided the inhabitants with fresh water before the formation of Water-Works as we now know them. The supply of this water to the inhabitants was for ages under the control of a public official called the Water Bailiff or Bailiff of the Bourne, whose staff of office is still preserved in the Museum, and was called the "Oar Mace," and also used when making arrests on the high seas. The flood gate already mentioned as being used for gathering the water was opened at intervals announced by the blowing of a



[Painted by Mr. Thos. Parkin.]

ANOTHER VIEW OF THE "SLOUGH."

From a Water Colour by H.H., 1807, with Soldiers from the Barracks at Halton crossing the Stream.

horn, when the inhabitants filled their vessels from the running Stream, and during the operation it is probable the flood gates near the Courthouse were closed. In many of the old title deeds relating to property in All Saints' Street, the boundary is spoken of as "Abutting on the East (or West) to the Bourne River," "To the South by the Sea Gate, on the North by the Minnis." The Bourne Stream was closed about 1835, when the Water Works at Harold Road were constructed by the Corporation. Bourne Street, as seen in another view with the Stream several feet below the rough pathways, was then filled up and Bourne Walk was made, and as a substitute

for the loss of the Stream, the inhabitants were provided with public pumps, which are still kept in order by the Corporation, and about the same time the East Well at Rock-a-Nore was constructed by public subscription. This is fed by a spring in the Cliffs. The late Mr. T. B. Brett remembered rough wooden bridges over the Stream near the Court House and Theatre, within the Town Wall, from East Bourne Street to Winding Lane, and at Upper Lane (now Waterloo Passage), and Lower Lane (now Bourne Passage)

EARLY WATER SUPPLY. In the "Collier Letters" it is recorded that in 1735 (just a hundred years prior to the closing of the Bourne Stream) an attempt at providing Hastings with a water supply was made. See extracts from "Collier Letters."

Early Water Carriers. In a series of interesting letters from a visitor at Hastings, written to a friend in London, of his impressions of the town, about 1826, and published by George Wooll, 5, High Street, Hastings, is the following allusion to the sale of water:—"Between High Street and All Saints' Street runs a small stream called the Bourne. If this stream were collected in the valley about a mile off in a reservoir, and conveyed in pipes to the town it would be a great improvement. When we walked that way and saw two large springs running to waste so near, and also having felt the want of water in our lodgings, owing to the man that goes round to sell it being sometimes late with his cart, we were very much astonished that the inhabitants should neglect this so long." This visitor's idea of a reservoir was carried out about ten years after by the Corporation providing the Water Works in Clive Vale, beforementioned.

A writer of a hundred years ago describes the Bourne as being partly choked up with brick bats, tin kettles, and bits of earthenware of all sorts and sizes. Another, "The Bourne Water must have been liquid poison, for all kinds of rubbish was shot into it, to be cleared away when the "Slough was let."

The open space was formerly the Market Place for horses, cattle, farm produce, and other commodities. Here was the gallows, the stocks, the whipping post, the Pound, and the Market Cross. The Torfield on the west side and the Pound Field and the Large Meadow on the Minnis Rock, on the east were open spaces for country carts and cattle. In the Chamberlain's account for 1645-6 are charges for 25 feet of timber, and for work done for setting up the gallows, and for a halter and ladder, and for four men on guard, and for 20s. for the executioner "for executing the woman." Another case of the use of the whipping post is mentioned in the "Collier Letters," under date 1st May, 1742.

All Saints' Church, All Saints' Street, was formerly styled the Upper Church, to distinguish it from the Lower Church or St. Clement's, and forms one of the principal objects at the entrance of the town from Old London Road. It is considered to be of a later date than St. Clement's. The present building is said to

date from the 15th century. The list of Rectors is given in Moss's History from 1573, and includes "Samuel Otes," 1660, the father of the notorious Titus Oates. Amongst those buried in the churchyard is George Moggeridge, familiarly known as "Old Humphrey," who died at No. 4, High Wickham, Hastings, November 3rd, 1854. In 1740 the advowson came into the Webster family, of Battle Abbey, and in 1770 the smallness of the benefices of the two parishes of All Saints and St. Clement's led to their being united with the consent of the Corporation, and subsequently in 1832 the late Rev. John Goodge Foyster became patron and incumbent of both livings, and by him were again divided as the town increased. Then the late Rev. Henry S. Foyster held the living until his death in 1862—then to his son, the late Rev. George Alfred Foyster, B.A. The present rector of All Saints is the Rev. E. A. Penson, who resides in the Rectory House,



By W. G. Moss.]

[From the Author's Collection

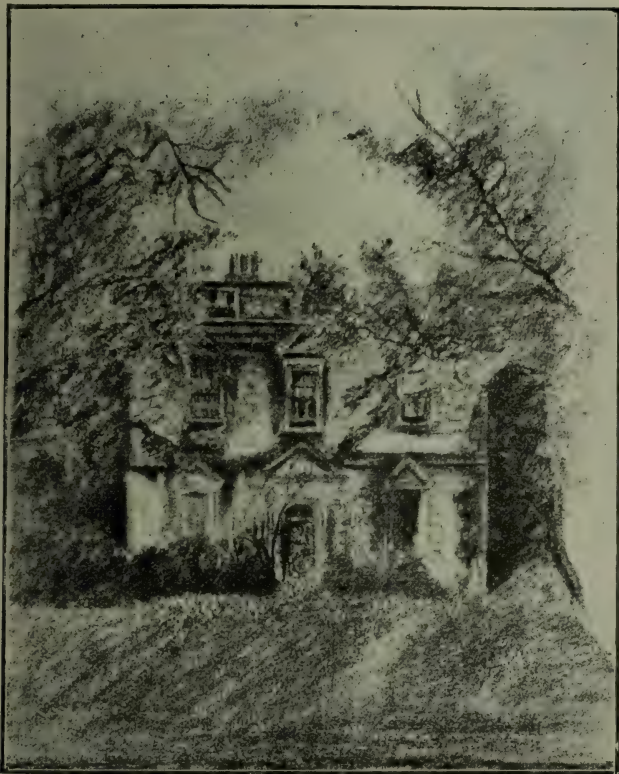
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, 1824.

(Shewing the Roof of Horsham Stones and Dormer Windows.)

close by, which was occupied in the early part of the 19th century by W. Lucas-Shadwell, Esq., who built Fairlight Hall.

On the south side of All Saints' Church formerly stood "Hastings House," which on more than one occasion was occupied by remarkable persons, including the Duke of Wellington in 1806, just after his marriage, who (then General Sir Arthur Wellesley), had command of the troops stationed here, and in 1814 by Lord Byron, afterwards by the Duchess of Leeds as a Roman Catholic School. It was in the seventies purchased by Mr. H. Chapman, a builder, who pulled it down and upon the site erected a paved ascent and houses, now Old Humphrey Avenue. The Duke of Wellington also occupied 54, High Street over Mr. Rubie's grocers shop.

In connection with Lord Byron's occupation, he wrote the following to a friend: "August 12th, 1814, Before I left Hastings, I got in a passion with an ink bottle, which I flung out of the window one night with a vengeance; and what then? Why, next morning was worried by seeing that it had struck and split open the petticoat of Euterpe's graven image in the garden, and grimed her as if it were on purpose." Hastings House had the reputation of being "haunted."



[Lent by the late Rev. W. C. Sayer-Milward]

“HASTINGS HOUSE.”

[From a drawing in coloured chalks—Artist and date unknown.]

In Powell's "Guide to the Lodging-Houses at Hastings," 1819, "Hastings House" is described as having 4 Sitting-rooms, 9 Bed-rooms, with Coach House, Stable, and Pleasure Ground; it was then occupied by the Rev. Mr Cazelett.

The next view represents "The Walk under the East Hill" with a fine row of trees, the slopes of the East Hill and a party with a recalcitrant pony attempting the ascent, altogether forming a



By James Rouse.]

[Lent by Mr. Thos. Parkin.]

“THE WALK UNDER THE EAST HILL.”—Date 1790.

(Now called the Tackleway.)



[From the Author's Collection.]

VIEW IN ALL SAINTS' STREET.

(From a sketch by John G. Shorter—1797.)

A few doors from this was a similar house, a “Royal Residence,” occupied by Anne Page, the “Queen of All Saints.”

beautiful land and seascape. This walk formed a pleasant promenade. The trees were removed and the place was afterwards used as a rope walk, and hence probably derived its present name of Tackleway. The east window of All Saints' Church is seen in the corner. In an old deed of Edward VII. it is called Teghill Way.

ALL SAINTS' STREET.

One of the two main streets into which the old town of Hastings is divided has seen fewer architectural changes than others. It has no pretentious shop fronts, and few business establishments of note. There are some of the 16th century houses left and most of its early features remain, especially the picturesque high pavement on the east side. On this pavement in the first half of the 19th century it was a common sight during the summer months for the inhabitants to bring out chairs and tables and partake of an *al fresco* tea. Immediately opposite All Saints' Church is the Wilderness, with several very fine old elm trees. Many years ago Wilderness Cottage was occupied by Mrs. Hawkins, and afterwards by Mr. Davis, who owned some land opposite and presented it for the extension of the Churchyard and making an improved entrance to the Church. On page 138 is presented a view of an old timber gabled house which still exists nearly opposite the Stag Inn, a specimen of many in All Saints' Street a century ago.

A QUAIN CORONATION CEREMONY.

ANNE PAGE—"QUEEN OF ALL SAINTS."

Part of the festivities at Hastings on the occasion of Queen Victoria's Coronation in 1838 was a ceremony performed in All Saints' Street. In "Brett's Local History" the following account is given:—"The crowning of the 'Queen of all Saints' might be interpreted as an act of disloyalty, or as a burlesque on the solemn event it is intended to commemorate. That, in a certain sense, it was a burlesque, there is no denying, but the object of those who took part in it (some of whom held high positions in the town) was simply to gratify a whim of the people living in the Old Town, and at the same time to do honour, rather than to offer insult, to a beloved Sovereign. It suited the caprice of certain maids and matrons to have a Queen for their own particular parish, and to have her crowned as such on the same day as Queen Victoria. Anne Page, on whom their choice fell, was a sprightly old dame, 69 or 70, whose husband had died some years before, and she was to be found at nearly all the dances and merry-makings in and about the town. There was scarcely an old-fashioned dance of any kind with which she was not an adept, besides being a fair vocalist, and would also undertake to tell young women's fortunes by means of cards.

Such divinations were given orally, thus obviating any demonstration of her inability to read or write.

"For the purpose of the coronation a platform *dais* was erected at 117, All Saints' Street—a house occupied by Mr. Jendwine, a grocer—and the following pseudo officials took part in the ceremony: W. Lucas-Shadwell, Esq., as Treasurer of the Household; Fredk. North, Esq., as Groom-in-Waiting; Mr. Jendwine, as Archbishop of Canterbury; Mr. Anthony Harvey, as Archbishop of York; and Mr. H. Wood, as Gold Stick-in-Waiting. The Archbishops wore mitres and robes, and after the Queen had been introduced by the Officers of State, the two clerical dignitaries placed a gilded crown



[Lent by Mr. Thos. Parkin.]

ANNE PAGE, "QUEEN OF ALL SAINTS,"
Crowned Queen, June 28th, 1838.

on Her Majesty's head, and expressed a hope that she would live long to reign over them. The Queen made a short speech, expressing her thanks for the honour that had been conferred upon her. After such a regal baptism, Her Majesty retired to change her robes, a procession was formed, and, headed by a band, proceeded round the

own. On their return, the tables and "tea traps" of the inhabitants were brought out into the street, and tea was commenced to the tune of 'Polly put the kettle on,' Her Majesty graciously presiding over her tea-drinking lieges. In the evening she joined them in the *al fresco* dance on the high pavement, and no one shewed a lighter pair of heels than Her Majesty."

"Nan Page's maiden name was Noakes; she was married to George Page at All Saints' Church in 1788. Mr. Page was a revenue or riding officer of the Customs of Hastings. He died in 1825, aged



[Lent by Mr. E. A. Notcutt.]

THE RESIDENCE OF ANNE PAGE, "THE QUEEN OF ALL SAINTS."

16th Century House, with gable ends, No. 134, All Saints Street.

73, and his widow (the Queen), in 1849, aged 81. Their remains are in a part on the south side of the chancel of All Saints' Church. After the coronation, and until her death, Nan Page lived in an apartment at Mr. Balding's, a picturesque old timbered house, the site of which is now 134, All Saints Street. A portrait of "Queen Anne" with her crown is given on page 140, and a view of the 'Royal Residence' is given above. Mrs. Balding is seen standing at the door.

“ The following is ‘ An Address delivered to the People in All Saints Street, Hastings, at the Coronation of their Queen.’ ”

Great is the pleasure now we feel
With you our friends to meet,
On such a day as this to crown,
The Star of All Saints’ Street.

Unto your “youthful” Queen now give
All honours that are due
And we are sure she’ll in return,
Her favours shower on you.

How well, how nobly, she’ll perform
The table honours now;
And for this grand occasion, we
With laurels grace her brow

To those kind friends who lent their aid,
This holiday to gain,
We wish them health and every good,
Nor shall we wish in vain.

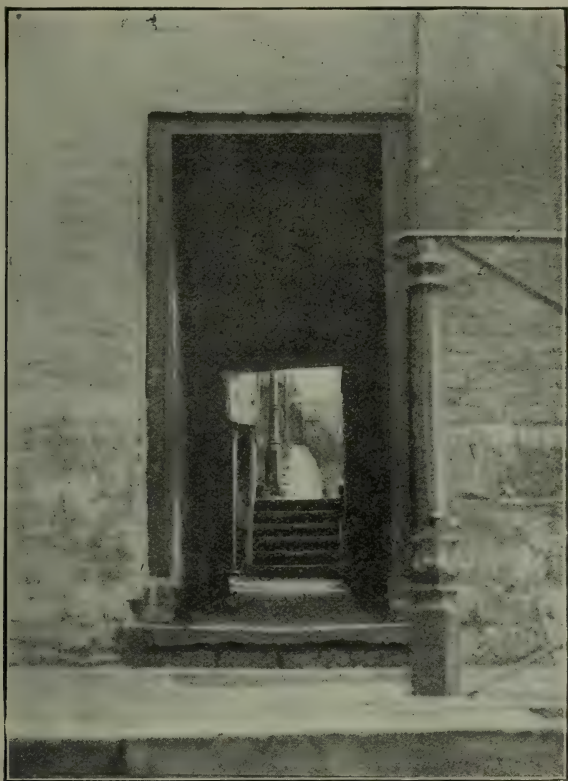
Permit us now, most noble Queen,
Your blessings to entreat,
Which given, we all will raise the cry,
Hail, Queen of All Saints’ Street!

All Saints’ Street is intersected on either side by many “Passages,” those on the west side led to the Bourne Stream, and those on the east side to the East Hill. A photograph of one of these is here presented.

The street was in old times paved with boulders, now changed to modern tar macadam. In the earlier guide books it is mentioned as “Fish Street,” “Fisher Street,” and “Back Street,” but there appears no ground for saying that it was ever legally or officially recognised by these names. Nearly two hundred old deeds of property have been inspected by the writer dating back for two-and-a-half centuries, and in no case is any one of these names recorded. It is, however, worthy of mention here that in the description of property on the east side of All Saints’ Street, the East Hill is severally called “All Holland Hill,” date 1796. “St. George’s Hill,” 1786. “George’s Hill,” 1766, and “Mount Idle.” Yet in a deed relating to 49, All Saints’ Street, dated 1792, this house was conveyed by one William Robinson, to William Lucas-Shadwell, and William Bishop, and then described as “East Hill.”

Coming back to All Saints’ Street and its old houses, still in existence, Mrs. Shovell’s house, Nos. 125-6 is dealt with in a special article on Sir Cloudesley Shovell and his mother. Another fair specimen remaining is No. 58-9, which artists are still fond of painting. There are several of the old inns remaining, although they have been modernised. The Stag Inn and the Chequers (now the Cinque Ports Arms) both 18th century inns. One of the principal was the “Crown Inn,” which is frequently mentioned in Barry’s, Powell’s, and Ross’s Guides. The present house is but a shadow of

the original "Crown." The premises extended to the Tackleway with extensive yard and stabling on the present site of Scriveners, Buildings in Crown Lane. As at the Swan—Assemblies, Balls, and Dinners were held here, Coaches started from the Crown to London and Brighton, and as no Union Street then existed, the Coaches turned out of All Saints' Street, through East Bourne Street. This Inn also once belonged to Mr. John Collier. In the deeds dated 1796, the boundary of the property is set out as being "on the Hill



[Photo by F. J. Parsons, Ltd.]

"PEEP AT OLD HASTINGS."

A Passage in All Saints' Street, 1920.

called 'All Holland Hill,' (no doubt a corruption of "All Hallows), and the 'Tackle Way' (two words), and 'the footpath' (now Union Street) leading from the High Street to the Hill."

At the bottom or sea end of All Saints' Street is another famous house, known as East Hill House, once owned and occupied by the late Mr. Edwin Smith, Furniture Dealer. It was built by Mr. Edward Capel in 1762 (who is mentioned in the "Collier Letters") at a cost of £5,000, and after his death was sold for about £1,300.

He was a man of singular temper and habits ; for ten years preceding his death, on January 24th, 1781, he lived here part of the year, and when in residence, nothing but the most urgent business could draw him out of doors. He occasionally visited the Collier family at the Mansion (now Old Hastings House) and the Earl of Ashburnham, while his friend, Garrick, frequently visited him here. Capel was one of the Commentators of Shakespeare. An account of this singular man is given in Nichol's "Illustrations of the Literary History of the Eighteenth Century," vol. I., p. 475-6. It is said that Garrick brought him a slip from Shakespeare's Mulberry Tree at Stratford-on-Avon, and planted it in the garden of East Hill House, and it is still there. Capel held the office of Censor of Plays under



Photo

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

GENERAL VIEW OF ALL SAINTS' STREET—1920.

(Shewing the High Pavement.)

the Government. He was born at Troston, near Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, and was buried there. This house was for many years occupied by the Rev. J. H. Fiske, well remembered for his charitable nature, and his peculiar custom of walking through the streets on New Year's Day, followed by a crowd of fisher lads, who scrambled for the money he threw amongst them, singing the following :—

“Bundle 'em in and bundle 'em out,
Turn 'em in and turn 'em out,
New Year's in and Old Year's out,
Rout, Rout, Your money out.”

On looking at the map of Hastings, 1746, the spot just described is where the Eastern Tower is shewn. The Seagate, one of the ancient gates of the wall, stood at the bottom of All Saints' Street, with steps up to it, was sometimes called the Pulpit-Gate. Emerging from the Street, we come to Rock-a-Nore, or "The Rocks of Nore," as it is called on one old map. Here is the East Well, a spring of fresh water which has been flowing for ages out of the Cliff and supplied the town with drinking water before water works were thought of. This is the fisherman's quarter, where rows of tall black, wooden sheds, three and four stories high, in which ropes



By Marianne Johnson.

[Lent by Museum Committee.]

BOURNE STREET, BOURNE STREAM & FLOOD GATES, 19TH CENTURY.

nets, and other gear are stored for use. This forms part of the old Stade. They are the property of the Corporation, for which an official, once called the Chamberlain, collects the rents. This is the landing place for the fishing craft, which, on coming ashore, are hauled up by capstans. Here also is the Fishermen's Church, connected with All Saints' Church; the modern lift to the East Hill, and also the Dust Destructor. Coming west formerly stood the Mercer's Hall, at Mercer's Bank, which was used by Merchants as an Exchange. Nearly opposite was the mouth of the Bourne, or the Gut's Mouth.

We now enter Bourne Street, through which the Bourne Stream flowed several feet below the footways on either side, as will be seen by the following series of views:—

THE OLD BOURNE STREAM.

The view on page 147 is taken from the mouth, flowing to the sea. Moss says:—"Hastings was formerly defended, towards the

sea, by a wall which extended from the castle-cliff across the hollow in which the town lies, to the east cliff; . . . a very small portion of this wall still exists, and may be traced near the Bourne's Mouth, where there was a portcullis or gate; a considerable part of it is stated to have remained about forty years since."—(1784.)

REMAINS OF THE TOWN WALL, 1920 (see page 148).

This may be seen near the south end of Bourne Street, opposite East Bourne Street, and is another piece of antiquity which should be preserved by the Corporation, and a descriptive tablet attached.

This view is taken from the Courthouse, which stood upon the site of the present Police Station. The massive timber posts in the foreground are the remains of the great flood-gates, described in Corporation Records as "Adjoining the Court House," seen on the right, and was the site of the old Court House or Common Hall, where a prison has existed for centuries. Prior to 1702, a portion of the Court House was built over the Stream. The following reference from the Town Records reads: "On the 7th April, 1615, it was agreed at the common charge to build a new room, with a garret for a store house, on the north side of the Court Hall *on the Bourne*, to contain twelve feet broad and fourteen feet long, as Mr. Mayor and his brethren should conclude and agree." A further and later reference reads as follows:—1702—"when all that was over the Bourne was directed to be pulled down, and also the roof of that part which was once the prison and duck-house which was pulled down to the Court Hall floor." It may be supposed that "ducking" the prisoners was resorted to as a method of punishment.

The tall building shown on page 150 was called the Watch-house or Lock-up, and added to the jail in 1820, together with the stocks. The eastern walls of the jail were washed by the Bourne, before the erection of the Theatre a few years later. The Bourne was crossed here by a couple of planks from one side to the other. Brett described the Stream, on the opening of the flood gates, in the following lines:—

This Bourne water, sometimes clearly,
Would be running gently merely,
Drank by hundreds of humanity about the town;
Now and then a cleansing getting
When the penstock-man was letting
That which had been kept at bay to rush the channel down.

Often have I joined a party
Who, with shouts and laughter hearty,
Ran the course and crossings leaped before a hasty flood;
Tumbling over one another,
Helping p'rhaps a younger brother
Out of danger from a torrent of that liquid mud.



By Miss Marianne Johnson.

[Lent by the Museum Committee.]

THE OLD BOURNE STREAM.
[From a Water Colour Drawing.]



By W. G. Moss.

[From Moss's Guide.]

REMAINS OF THE TOWN WALL, 1824.
(Near the Bourne's Mouth.)



Photo.]

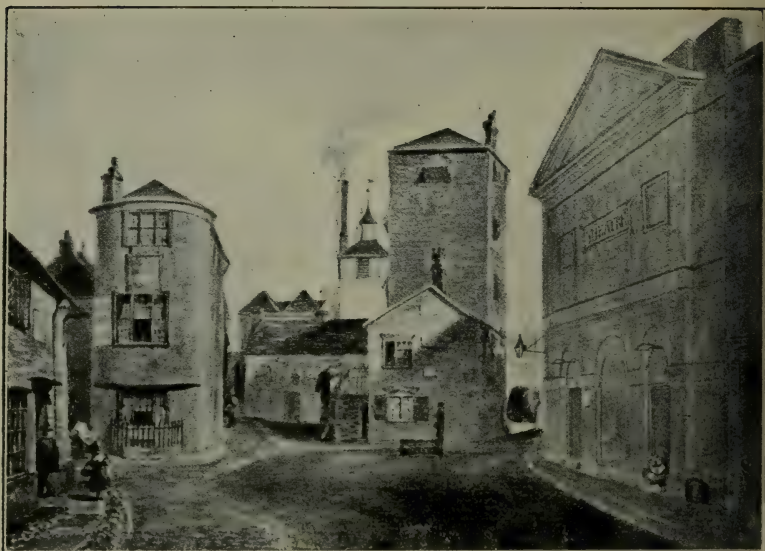
[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

REMAINS OF THE TOWN WALL, 1920.

The vehicle seen is entering the Bourne Walk going towards the Creek, and the circular fronted house on the left represents the King's Head Inn, and is the last house in Courthouse Street (see next page).

It must be remembered that the gardens of houses both in High Street and All Saints' Street abutted on the Stream, and many of those now standing in Bourne Walk were non-existent, as shewn by the title deeds of houses since built along The Walk. The old timbered house with gables on the right of the picture, on page 145, is still standing (No. 29, Bourne Street), a view of which is given on page 153.

Bourne Street contained the only Theatre proper within the Corporation limits until the present Gaiety Theatre was erected by the late Mr. George Gaze, in Queen's Road. The Hare and Hounds Theatre has already claimed attention. Moss in his work published 1824, says :—“ It has probably been with a view to prevent the demoralisation of the lower classes of society, that no theatre has been hitherto sanctioned or permitted in Hastings. How far the conduct of the Magistracy, in this particular, may be thought worthy of approval is not our business to discuss. One ground of objection to such a place of public amusement has been stated to be the frequent riots and disturbances which took place between the sailors and soldiers, and more especially at the time Hastings was a naval and military station, as was the case in the late war. There is, however, a small theatre about a mile-and-a-half from the town, on the left hand in the London Road. And we believe it is at length in contemplation to erect one (in Bourne Street), and from the increasing resort of visitants, there can be no reason to doubt why an establishment for so rational and intellectual a species of entertainment should not be equally patronised and encouraged here, as in other watering places in the kingdom.” Moss's account was a forecast of what was then about to take place, for in 1825 a Mr. Brookes erected and opened the Theatre in Bourne Street. There are several old play bills in the Museum announcing the performances at this theatre. It was carried on for several years, but it proved an unsuccessful venture, and a disastrous one for the proprietor. What is Union Street was then a mere alley when the theatre was built, and was closed at the top by one or two old houses in All Saints' Street, opposite the Crown Inn, such houses having a back outlet to the Bourne. At the north side of the alley, where the grocer's shop now is, at the entrance to Bourne Walk, then called the Creek, were opposite the pit and gallery entrance to the Theatre, which entrance may still be traced in the stone work of the outer wall. The Corporation, or Commissioners, as they were then designated, purchased the old property, and then made Union Street. In 1747 a bridge or road way was made across the Bourne Stream, into East Bourne Street, just within the Town Wall, depicted on page 148, thus connecting the lower part of Market Street (High Street) with Fish Street (All



[Lent by Mr. Thos. Parkin.]

RARE VIEW OF BOURNE STREET WITH WATCH-HOUSE, Old Jail,
THE STOCKS, AND THEATRE (now the Wesley Chapel).



[Photo.]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.]

BOURNE STREET, 1920, WESLEY CHAPEL.
(Formerly the Theatre. Looking towards the Sea.)

Saints' Street) via the Town Wall, and what is now Winding Street. The Theatre was sold in 1833, at about a third of its cost, and the Wesleyans purchased it for about £800, and this is the origin of the Wesley Chapel, Bourne Street. The exact site of the "Hare-and-Hounds" Theatre at Ore was obtained by the Author through a plan found in the Corporation Records. A tablet was placed on the site during the Pageant of Heroes in 1914. This tablet was unveiled by the late Mr. Herbert Beerbohm Tree. See chapter on Pageant of Heroes.

The old house on page 153 is one of the most perfect specimens of 16th century style existing, and one of the many in the Old Town belonging to the Hastings Cottage Improvement Society, Limited. It was formerly one house, now divided into three tenements, and in the upper part there are evidences of what was once a large room which might have been used for meetings of some nature. In this room there was a large elliptical shaped window, a tracing of which is still visible on the north side looking on a warehouse. It abuts on the old Brewery in Courthouse Street, formerly Burfields. This house was doubtless used for smuggling purposes, there being under the floor of the front room a large space, about four feet deep, with a secret door. During alterations some years ago, this door was discovered, and, on opening, it was found to be full of rubbish, which was cleared out. There is little doubt the space has been the receptacle for contraband tubs of spirits. The late Dr. Greenhill, the Secretary of the H.C.I.S., has left a memorandum fixing the date in the 16th century. The title deeds commence 17th May, 1765, by a deed poll under the hand and seal of Phillis Noble, who inherited from her uncle Richard Chadderton, an Officer of the Customs, then by a lease and release made between Richard Fennings, Mariner, and Lucy, his wife, and John Poole, of Hasting, Mariner, and is described as "All that Messuage or tenement with the yard, backside, garden, and appurtenances thereto belonging and therewithal usually held, letten, occupied, or enjoyed, lying and being in the parish of All Saints in the town and port of Hasting then late in the occupation or tenure of Ann Sargent, widow, then James Taught his under-tenants or assigns, and abutting to a tenement and premises then late of the widow Fautley, to the South, to the common highway and watercourse called the Bourne, on the east to a messuage or tenement of Mark Bossom, then since Ann Hide, then William Went towards the North, and to the garden of the heirs of John Lunsford towards the West. [On the deeds there is a marginal note by Dr. Greenhill—"Never in two tenements."] It is now occupied by an Italian manufacturer of ice-creams.

On page 155 is a rare view of a gabled house which stood at the sea end of Bourne Street.

There was one house at the Bourne's Mouth, with several old boats lying about. Barry's Guide, in describing a storm and rough sea, states :—"A ship of about 10 tons lying at the Bourne's mouth was knocked to pieces."

From the old jail we leave Bourne Street and enter Bourne Walk through which the stream formerly ran until 1835, when its bed was covered in. At this time an artist named W. H. Brooke made several sketches of the old style of gabled houses, one of which is shewn on page 154, with the date, 1636.



Photo.]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.]

BOURNE STREET, 1920.

(Shewing the present Police Station on the site of the Court Hall of 1700.)

BOURNE WALK—1920.

The view on page 155 is taken from the corner of the "Creek," often mentioned in Guide Books. This is the first of the "twittens" running from Bourne Walk to All Saints' Street. The large building on the left is Breeds' Brewery, and the pump is one provided by the Corporation for public use after the Stream was closed.

Courthouse Street, so called by reason of its leading to the Old Court Hall from High Street (or Market Street). The modern fronted Inn seen in the left hand corner on this page is the King's Head, previously mentioned. On the opposite side is the Brewery, once owned by William Amore, afterwards by Thomas Mills, during whose occupation it was destroyed by fire, then Burfield's, now by

Smith & Co. In this street was an old Inn called the Maidenhead House, where the Courts Baron of Brede were formerly held, kept by William Amooore, now No. 2, Courthouse Street, and 43, High Street, at present occupied by Reeves and Son, Antique Furniture Warehouse. It formed part of the ancient Manor of Brede, which extended “from the Old Town Hall (Bourne Street), southward along Bourne Street, thence Northward of John Street to the corner of High Street, thence by the “Maidenhead Inn,” now Mr. Amooore’s, to the Swan



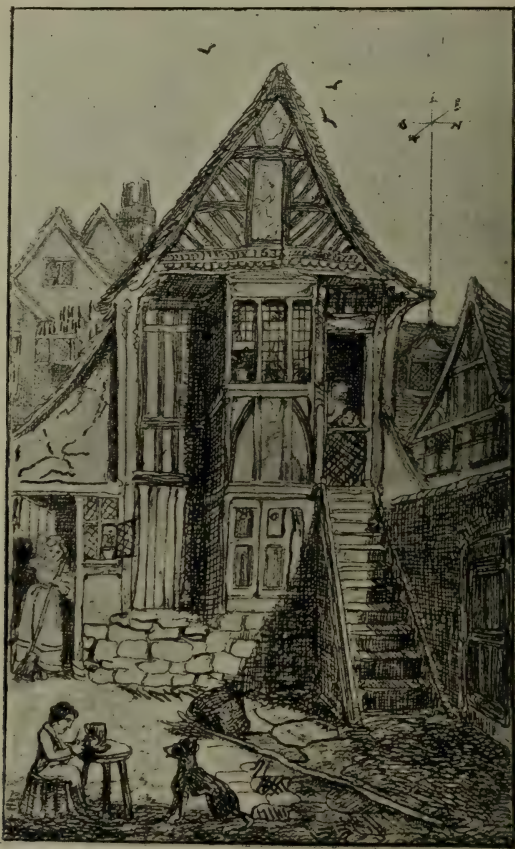
From the Author's Collection].

[By Annie F. Pattison.

VIEW OF 29, BOURNE STREET, DATED 1872.

Lane; then by Church Street (now Croft Road) to the pathway (now Salter's Lane) from the Croft to High Street; and then taking in the south east side of High Street, along Courthouse Street to the old Town Hall.” The land belonging to this old Manor is mentioned in the Domesday survey as part of the Manor of Rameslie, in which Brede was included, and once belonged to the Abbey of Fécamp, besides these, the Abbey held the Totty Lands (now part of Clive

Vale, part of which is now the reservoir for the first water works) the great meadow on the Minnis Rock, and the Chequers, now the Cinque Port Arms, in All Saints'; and Brookland, near the old Watermill, in the Castle Parish (now the Site of the Gas Works). The present Lords of the Manor I believe are Messrs. Paine and Brett, of Coggeshall, Essex.



By W. H. Brooke.]

[Lent by Dr. G. Vickerman Hewland.]

OLD HOUSE IN BOURNE WALK.

Which is built upon raised stone work above the stream, with steps to the house. The artist depicts several houses of similar style. There are a number of intersecting passages from High Street to All Saints' Street, the two principal being the Upper Lane and Lower Lane, where there were rough bridges for crossing the stream.

The view on page 156, is East Bourne Street, running from All Saints' Street to Bourne Street, which has undergone much alteration by the erection of modern buildings.



Lent by Mr. F. G. Lancham.

OLD HOUSE AT THE MOUTH OF THE BOURNE STREAM.

From an Aquatint, by R. Cocking, engraved by J. Bluck, and published by Ackermann, 1808.



Photo.]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

BOURNE WALK, 1920.



By W. G. Moss.]

VIEW OF EAST BOURNE STREET.

(From Moss's History of Hastings, 1824.)

(This view given in the first edition as Courthouse Street was an error.—Author.)



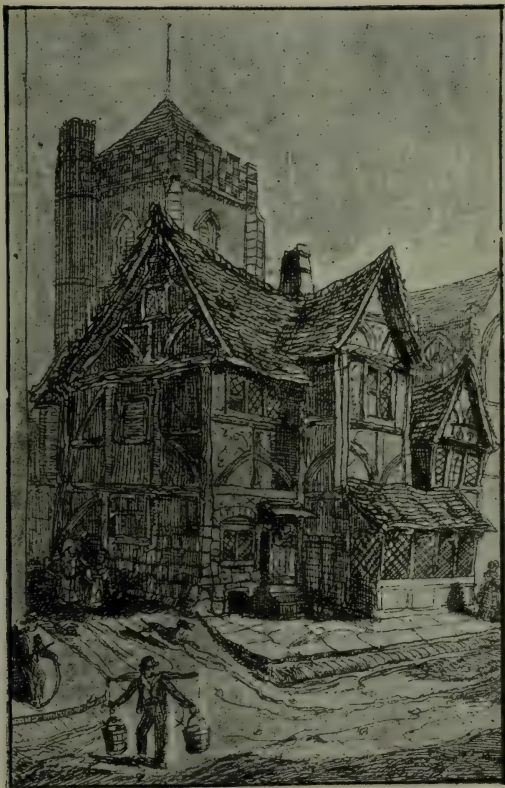
Photo]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.]

COURTHOUSE STREET—1920.

This street is so named by reason of the Courthouse and Prison being there; and a Police Station and lock-up for prisoners, combined with a Fire Station, on the same site.

The Author is indebted to Mr. J. E. Ray, F.S.A., for pointing out an error in attributing the view on page 156 as “ Courthouse Street,” which is now corrected to East Bourne Street. This is apparent on taking a view of the latter street from East Cliff House at the bottom of All Saints’ Street and known as Capell’s House.



[Lent by Mr. G. Vickerman Hewland.]

HUMPHREY WICKHAM’S BUTCHER’S SHOP,
66, HIGH STREET.

(Stood at the North Corner of Church Street, now Swan Lane.)

HIGH STREET.

The principal thoroughfare of Old Hastings, High Street (sometimes referred to as Market Street, by reason of the Market being formerly held at the North end), will now claim attention. Like All Saints' Street, the West side being built on the side of the hill, the early builders found it necessary "to put the houses on a shelf" or high pavement.

HUMPHREY WICKHAM'S BUTCHER'S SHOP.

This is a fair specimen of the style of House in High Street in the 16th and 17th centuries. It stood until about 1840, when it was removed to make a better approach to St. Clement's Church. The money for the purpose was raised by public subscription. Humphrey Wickham occupied it as a Butcher's Shop, seen in the view. High Wickham derived its name from him, he having farmed the adjoining land and built several of the houses there.

At the South corner, opposite Wickham's house, was the famous Swan Inn.

THE OLD SWAN HOTEL, HIGH STREET.

This old hostelry for centuries played such a prominent part in the life of Hastings that more than a passing note is necessary here. It stood upon nearly an acre of ground, and occupied the site now represented by the London Distillery, and Nos. 64c, d, and e, High Street, Swan Terrace, Swan Avenue, and part of Hill Street. It contained 42 bedrooms, a very fine Assembly Room, with music gallery, a spacious market or dining room, a suite of reception rooms, bar, and other offices, a large Court Yard, range of stabling and coach houses, a brewery, and shades or tap. The archway shewn in the view led to the courtyard, with an entrance from Hill Street (or Cornhill as it was formerly called). In olden times many Innkeepers brewed their beer. It was purchased in 1889 by a local firm of builders, who demolished it, and covered the site with a modern Public House and the other buildings above mentioned.

The Swan Inn was the oldest one in the town, so far as can be ascertained, the Crown Inn, All Saints' Street, running it very closely. As a proof of its age, Brett, in searching the Registers of St. Clement's Church, found the following entry:—

"March 28th, 1609, there was buried in St. Clement's Churchyard, One John, Oastler at the Swan," shewing a history of over three centuries. In the deeds of the property the title is said to commence with 1722, and the first recorded owner or occupier was one Katherine Stevens. Then by a family named Richardson. In 1726 by a Mrs. Grove, who took in a partner named Richard Halsted, and afterwards married him. Richard Halsted died, the widow still carrying it on. In 1747, the following notice was posted:—

“To be sold immediately, the Swan Inn, with Brewery, Stabling, two Gardens, etc., enquire of Widow Halsted in Hastings.” Whether sold or not is doubtful, but it fell into the hands of Mr. John Collier, either as purchaser or mortgagee, and shortly after was announced to be let. According to the “Collier letters” the property passed by Will to Mrs. Collier. Some years after it was owned and occupied by Mr. Thomas Breeds, and afterwards Mr. William Scrivens, Mr. Dodson, Mr. Stockwell, and Mr. Robinson were severally landlords. Early in the 19th Century Mr. C. F. Mott, followed by Messrs. Abraham Wood and Francis Emary. After their tenancy the property was bought outright for £5,000 by Mr. W. M. Eldridge, then proprietor of the Saxon Hotel, St. Leonards, and ultimately it was carried on by Mr. Wm. Carswell and his



[Lent by Mr. Alfred Bryant.]

THE SWAN HOTEL.

(As it appeared just prior to its demolition with the posters announcing the Sale of its contents, Horses, Carriages, etc.)

widow after him, who will be remembered by many now living. The Hotel under their management became celebrated. Far away into the 18th Century the Swan was famous for its Assemblies, Balls, Dinners, Concerts, and other functions. One or other of the Political Parties made it their rendezvous at election times, the Mayor's Dinners were held there, the Assembly Room was used for Auction Sales of Property, by Commercial Traders, and farmers and merchants attending the weekly market regularly transacted much of their business at the Swan, and the “Market Ordinary” was a recognised institution. “All things change.”

The old-style of Inns have disappeared, where one was made welcome by the cheery greetings of the old-fashioned landlord or landlady, and one's personal comfort studied, to make way for the modern "House of Call." One of the old time waiters was till recently amongst us in the person of the late Mr. James Foster, the custodian of the Public Hall, who was a keen collector of Hastings views, some of which have been lent by him for reproduction in this work, and he told many interesting stories of the Swan, where he was as a waiter in 1845. The last tenant was Mr. Joseph Collins.

GENERAL VIEW OF HIGH STREET.

In the left-hand corner of this view, where the electric-light standard is shown, was the site of Humphrey Wickham's house. The projecting clock is on the old Town Hall. The date 1823 will be found upon it, and its predecessor was the first Town Hall erected in High Street in 1700, at the expense of John Pulteney and Peter Gott, Esquires, who at the time represented Hastings in Parliament. Their munificence is recorded by an inscription engraved on a stone tablet in Latin. The five arched windows represented openings where formerly was a market, and in later years a Police Station. The Courthall, or Council Chamber, and the Police Court above, was approached by steps at the North entrance. The building, as a Town Hall, was vacated when the new Municipal Buildings were opened in the Queen's Road, on September 7th, 1881. This old Town Hall is now used as an Antique Furniture Shop, a purpose somewhat in keeping with its traditions. High Street once contained all the principal public buildings—the Custom House, County Court, and Banks. In the next view another old house is shewn, and once the residence of Edmund Pelham.

PELHAM HOUSE, 1610.

The date, with the Pelham Buckle (the Arms of the Pelhams) is seen under the upper window, and, unfortunately, is the only remaining trace of its former significance. Edward Pelham was M.P. for Hastings in 1597, and Edmund Pelham resided here. It is No. 82, High Street. The Pelham Buckle, the badge of the family, is believed to be an allusion to the seizure of King John by his belt, by John Pelham, at the Battle of Poitiers. He was knighted after the battle. The Pelhams have for centuries been connected with Hastings. John Pelham and Sir Roger la Warr led the East Sussex contingent of the Army at Poitiers, and were probably concerned largely in the principal issue of the battle—the capture of King John (Dawson). Pelham House is more than once mentioned in the "Collier Letters." In 1744—the Editor says—"I should gather from the correspondence that Colonel James Pelham was then staying at Hastings, where he had a house, and the correspondence had reference to the formation of a club which



Photo.]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.]

GENERAL VIEW OF HIGH STREET, HASTINGS,
LOOKING NORTH—1920.



PELHAM HOUSE—1610.
FORMERLY 82, HIGH STREET.

used to meet at the Swan Inn.” And again on February 3rd, 1757,—he refers to this house as “one he meant to keep for the rest of his life, or so long as he was able to take a turn now and then to see his friends in Sussex.” In 1820 it was occupied by Richard and Mary Breeds.

The next view shows the back of the house.



[Lent by Mr. Chas. Dawson, F.S.A.]

PELHAM HOUSE, HIGH STREET.
(Back View.)

This shews the entrance from High Street to Sinnock's Square (formerly Tripe Alley), so called from the fact that a butcher named Sinnock sold tripe from premises through a door in the alley at No. 83, still a butcher's shop. The passage now leads to the Croft. Pelham House is owned by Mr. J. Baker Guy, whose father purchased it, and erased all trace of this fine specimen of the Tudor style of house, excepting the date tablet, and the Pelham Buckle shewn in the next view.

Since the demolition of the old house in 1877, and the erection of the present one, Mr. J. Baker Guy has frequently expressed his

regret that the features of this old house were not in some way preserved.

Crowhurst Place, on the road to Battle, was the seat of the Pelham family. The old Manor of Crowhurst was one of those held by Harold before the Conquest. In the reign of Henry IV. the Manor was in the possession of Sir John Pelham, who adopted the

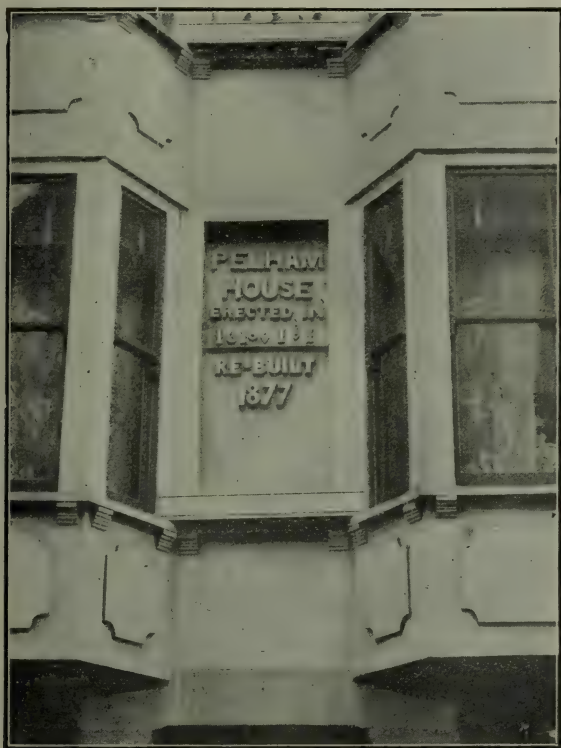


Photo.]

[*F. J. Parsons.*

FRONT OF PELHAM HOUSE—1920.

device known as the Pelham Buckle. His descendant, Colonel Pelham, resided there early in the seventeenth century. The property afterwards descended by inheritance to Thomas Papillon Esq., and the family still holds it. The property extends down the Crowhurst Valley to the Sea. We learn from the Collier Letters that in 1756, Colonel Pelham had a private road from Crowhurst Place to the Sea, where he had a house on the cliff at Bopeep called "The Tent," which he used as a resort for pleasure parties and bathing.

TORFIELD HOUSE.

This house still exists and adjoins "Old Hastings House" at the top of High Street, and now occupied by Dr. G. D. Compston. It was part of the Collier Estates, and is mentioned in Mr. Collier's will as "Torresfield." Its early history may be referred to in the "Collier Letters." Mr. Collier acquired it from a man named Wimble, but at the time of the apportionment of the Collier Estates, Mr. Edward Milward bought it for his daughters Maria and Frances to live in, and it was once occupied by them accordingly. It still remains in the Milward family. The present owner is Mrs. W. C. Sayer-Milward. In 1834 it was the residence of Sir Peckham Micklethwait, who received a baronetcy in recognition of his services in stopping the runaway horses of the carriage containing the Princess Victoria, and thus preventing a serious accident. The house was for many years the



By G. Rowe.]

[Lent by Dr. G. Vickerman-Hewland

TARRFIELD, TORRESFIELD OR TORFIELD HOUSE.—1832.

residence of Miss Kingsbury, who will be remembered for her generosity and support of local charities.

When Hastings was a walled-in town there was a Gate at the sea end of High Street called the Drawbridge Gate, at the bottom of Oak Hill.

Between High Street and Bourne Street was the Hundred Place, where from time immemorial the Bailiffs (now Mayors) and Jurats, were elected in the open. According to the map of 1746 it was approached from High Street opposite the Swan and from Winding Lane. The ceremony took place on Hock-day, the second Tuesday after Easter, when the horn was the common mode of calling an assembly. This quaint proceeding is fully described in the Custumal, Clauses 1 to 6, Suss. Arch. Coll., v., 14. In Barry's

Guide of 1797 is stated—"A Stage Coach runs between London and Hastings every Monday, Thursday, and Saturday, throughout the year, and on Wednesday also, during the summer season. It sets out from the Swan Inn, Hastings, at five, and from the Bolt-in-Tun, Fleet Street, London, at six in the morning; the two Coaches meet at Tunbridge about noon, where they exchange passengers and parcels, and return home at night." One can imagine the busy scene at the Swan in High Street in those days, on the early arrival of passengers from the surrounding district. In contrast to the present mode of travel by swift motor cars, and from 70 to 80 trains to and from London daily, taking from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 hours for the journey. Trains with luxurious dining and sleeping, electrically lighted, and well-warmed carriages.

No. 1, High Street was formerly occupied by Mr. Langham, the father of the late Ald. F. A. Langham, a lawyer of local celebrity, before the firm moved to Robertson Street. The earliest directory of which the author has any knowledge is one published by P. M. Powell, in 1819, and among the residents in High Street whose family names are familiar at the present day are Henbrey, Wine Merchant; Pain, Pastry Cook; Mrs. Amoores, Grocer; Weeks, Fruiterer; Williams, Wine Merchant; Barry, Bookseller; Inskipp, Painter; Pain, Sadler; W. Amoores, Grocer; Eaton, Upholsterer; Ellis, Grocer; West, Post Office (in Post Office Passage, leading to Winding Street); Bryant, Ironmonger; Job, Watchmaker; Breeds, Merchant; Foster, Tailor; Austin, Printer; Miss Carswell, Lodgings; Ruby, Lodgings; Tindall, Lodgings; Scrivens, Lawyer; Shorter, Lodgings; Chas. Powell, Boarding School; M. Breeds, Lodgings; Duke, Glover; Swan (or Royal Hotel), Mott, proprietor, etc., etc.

Leaving High Street by Swan Lane is Hill Street, once called Cornhill, and Church Street, Paragon Buildings, Cobourg Row, Harpsichord, Gloucester Place, and The Croft. An early account of this locality is recorded by William Durrant Cooper, F.S.A., and Thomas Ross, Esq., Mayor in 1862—in the *Suss. Arch. Coll.*, vol. 14, p. 65, in an article on "Notices of Hastings," dealing with the subject of the concealed lands of Salerne, Gautron, and Salter Chantries, which existed prior to the Reformation. A special Commission was petitioned for in 1578 for procuring evidence of these Concealed Lands, and to report same to Lawrence Levytt, Edmond Coppinger and John Asheburnham, Esquires. The report contains the following relating to this locality.—"Item—And also they doe finde and lykewise presente fowar gardeins—conteyninge by estimacion one roode of lande more or less, the which allwayes apperteyned and belongyd to the tenements at *Bullockes Hyll* durynge these twentye yeares; and hath byn conseallyd and kepte backe by one Willyam Benett, late of the towne of Hastinge deceassyd, and one Richard Calverley, nowe of the sayde towne of Hastinge, whoe sayth that he payeth rente for the same to one

Mr. Bryde of London, his landlord.” Item—“They doe present that all the tenementes and shoppes standinge at *Bullocks Hyll* contained in number syxe and one shopp were all pulled down taken convertyd and caryed awaye by Mr. Lyff now bayliffe of Hastinge (Richard Lief, Mayor—1588—Moss). But by what authoritye he hath done the same they knowe not ; and they value the same at twelve poundes.” Item—“They doe presente that the tenementes shoppes, chambers and garrattes in the parish of *Saint Clementes* in Hastinge nowe called the *Butchery* and very, muche in decaye in tymber, tylinge, walinge, and other reparacions so that as they do suppose that thirtye poundes will not sufficientlye repayre them.”

A market for cattle was formerly held here, and shambles or slaughter-houses for killing. Some years ago while carrying out drainage operations, many bones of bullocks and sheep were dug up in Hill Street, undoubtedly in evidence of the former existence of these shambles. Although “shoppes” are mentioned in the report, it seems reasonable that they were of little commercial importance.

The accompanying views will give an idea of the appearance of this part of Hastings about the period mentioned. The principal object is St. Clement’s Church.

The following description of St. Clement’s Church is written by the late Rector, the Rev. Henry C. Brereton Foyster, who has studied the history of this church, and possesses a very excellent collection of views of Old Hastings. The Rev. H. C. B. Foyster recently severed his connection with St. Clement’s Parish Church (after a period of nearly 90 years, during which his family were Rectors of either St. Clement’s or All Saints’ Churches, or both).

“HISTORY OF ST. CLEMENT’S CHURCH.—Of the early history very little is known. The first Rector, whose name has come down to us, is Laurence Soher, who resigned in 1331. Tradition has it that the first St. Clement’s was nearer the sea, perhaps near Hill Street Steps, and that the encroachments of the sea destroyed it. The next Church was built on the present site and probably consisted of a nave and chancel, with one broad south aisle having the Tower at the west end of it. These were of the same width as the present nave and south aisle which stand indeed on the old foundations. They did not, however, extend west of the east wall of the Tower, which thus was open on three sides. How far they reached eastward cannot be accurately ascertained. The east wall of the chancel cannot have been, by some feet, as far as the present one ; neither can the south aisle have been originally as long as it now is, but it is possible that the addition of a chapel may have extended it to its present length. Of course an arch must have divided the nave from the chancel. The main portion of the masonry of the existing tower belongs to this earlier Church. It will thus be seen that the building was of the usual form of Sussex Churches, the only unusual feature being that the tower was at the end of the aisle instead of that of the nave. This was due to the fact that the direction of Croft Road made it impossible to put the tower at the end of the nave, and the fall of the ground towards High Street prevented the building from being placed farther east. In 1378, a French force landed at Hastings, and burnt the town, and the Church perished, only the tower, and that much injured, especially at the upper part, and portions of the walls, being left standing.”



[Lent by the late Rev. H. C. B. Foyster.]

RARE AND EARLY VIEW OF ST. CLEMENT'S CHURCH FROM
CHURCH STREET (NOW CROFT ROAD).
(Date unknown.)



[Lent by Mr. T. Parkin.]

ANOTHER VIEW OF ST. CLEMENT'S CHURCH AND HILL STREET—
18TH CENTURY. (Date and Artist unknown.)

For ages past the Curfew Bell has been tolled daily at eight o'clock p.m. At the present time it is tolled during the winter months only. This Church contains Monuments to the Memory of John Collier, Esq., 1760, Edward Milward, Esq., 1811, Mary his wife, daughter of John Collier, Esq., 1783, Edward Milward, Esq., the first husband of the Countess of Waldegrave, 1833; also two monumental brasses to the memory of Thomas Wekes, late Jurat of Hastings, and Margery his Wyf, 1563, and John Barley, late of the town and port of Hastings, 1601 (Barley's Lane, derived its name from the latter.) For a more detailed history of St. Clement's Church, the reader may consult the many guide books. The present Rector is the Revd. Hugh Basil Cole, M.A.



[Lent by Mr. W. Ruskin Butterfield.]

ANOTHER VIEW OF HILL STREET OR CORNHILL.

Copied from the original Oil Painting found in the Maidstone Museum by Mr. Butterfield.

(Date and Artist unknown.)

Remains of parts of some of these old houses may still be seen. Those in the two preceding views are the property of the Hastings Cottage Improvement Society, Ltd., and are under the charge of the author. During repairs in these houses, massive oak flooring, 2 inches thick were found, and the laths in the plaster walls were also of oak, about a quarter inch thick. They are now represented by Nos. 22, 23, 24, and 25, Hill Street. Close by this spot Stell opened his Library at Paragon Buildings, opposite St. Clement's Church, on the site of what is now No. 1, Croft Road, occupied by Dr. H. Goldsworthy Shorter. This was in 1780, and four years after he published the first Guide to Hastings known to

Collectors as *Stell's Guide*, in 1794. It is a coincidence worthy of note that the late John Goldsworthy Shorter, the grandfather of the above, and Stell, were brothers-in-law by marriage, both having married daughters of the Rev. William Coppard, then rector of St. Clement's and All Saint's, the first in 1789, and the latter in 1792. Brett, in his *Reminiscences*, says that John Goldsworthy Shorter was accredited with being the draughtsman of the views which appeared in *Stell's Guide*. There is no doubt of this fact, as James Barry, a few years after, purchased *Stell's Library*, and published his *Guide* of 1797, with the same views bearing the imprint of J.G. Shorter, del. There are also strong reasons for believing that Stell



[Lent by the Museum Committee.]

A TUDOR HOUSE IN HILL STREET WHICH STOOD AT THE CORNER
AT THE BOTTOM OF COBOURG PLACE.

From a Water Colour by Miss M. Johnson—1820.

was assisted by his brother-in-law in writing his *Guide*. Who could render such help better than he, with his scholarly attainments and vast knowledge of the old town. Besides, Stell, in his preface

says—"To a few others I am also under obligations for information received at different times ; but to none more than to my ingenious and worthy friend, who furnished the drawings for the plates, and the map ; and to whose steady friendship and active zeal upon this, as well as numberless other occasions, I am greatly indebted."

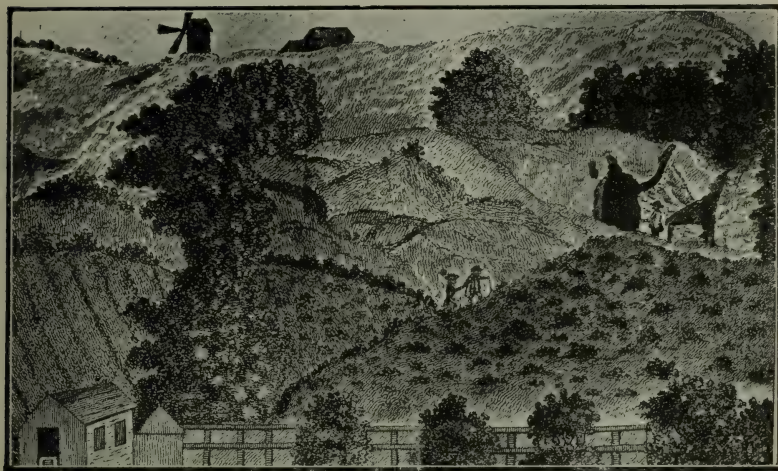
Mr. John Goldwsorthy Shorter was a native of the Premier Cinque Port, and after his retirement as a Schoolmaster, he became a Jurat and eight times Mayor of Hastings, seven times alternately from 1803 to 1815, with Mr. Edward Milward, junior. The coincidence is that his grandson now lives on the spot where his brother-in-law had his library, just one hundred and thirty years ago.

ST. CLEMENT'S CAVES.

The present entrance to these Caves is of modern origin. They were known to Mr. John Collier the owner of the land, and to his successor, Mr. Edward Milward, senior, long before Gloucester Place was thought of. Probably about the middle of the 18th Century. The following is a rare and quaint view of the Caves from an old print, which was published in the Gentleman's Magazine of 1786, and described as one of "The Antiquities of Hastings."

There is little doubt that the use of sand for building purposes and for sprinkling floors, before carpets were cheap, "or before the use of blotting paper for drying writing ink," caused a want which was readily filled by the inexhaustible supply from that part of the Croft called the Coney Banks, although some think they were used by smugglers for secreting contraband, which idea has been exploded long since, and ridiculed by old hands. Smugglers seldom used a hiding place more than once or twice. After being disused, early in the 19th Century, an opening was accidentally made by a gentleman named Scott while digging in his garden at the back of Gloucester Place. Then an idea struck a Mr. Golding that the opening of these Caves to the public, with music and dancing, would prove a profitable hit. He applied to Mr. Milward, and obtained permission to cut a new and more convenient entrance. This Mr. Golding and his descendants carried them on many years, during which the St. Clement's Caves became one of the "Lions" of the town, and are still open to the public daily. A new entrance from the West Hill, near the Lighthouse, was made during the late Mr. Edwin Smith's tenancy, making a visit less fatiguing than formerly. One writer states that these Caves were a popular resort of the soldiers from Halton Barracks, for card playing and other games. Every visitor should see these immense excavations.

Hill Street, Church Street, and Croft Road, were generally designated as "On the Hill." It is now called Croft Road, commencing from Paragon Buildings. No. 6 was formerly the rectory house and bears a date and initials—R.C.A., 1710. A few doors beyond is a disused burial ground under the charge of the Church-



[Lent by Mr. A. G. Fidler.]

THE ENTRANCE TO ST. CLEMENT'S CAVES—1786, FROM CROFT ROAD.



[By G. W. Wigg.]

[Lent by Dr. G. Vukerman Hewland.]

THE INTERIOR OF ST. CLEMENT'S CAVES—1826.

wardens of St. Clement's. At the top of this burial ground may be seen what is probably one of the original openings to the Caves. The Croft was commenced in 1805, and contains what were then considered some "large and commodious houses." It is still very quiet, but picturesque. Miss Marianne North, the famous traveller and painter, lived there. The late revered Rector of St. Clement's, Canon H. B. Foyster and his wife, lived and died at Croft House, which is now a school. Croft Road appears upon several old maps, and was a common highway from High Street to the Priory Road, from time immemorial.

Before leaving the Bourne Valley the next picture is one of the earliest giving a general view of the old town; and bears the description, "Hastings taken on the top of Mr. Wenham's House, 1780.—Copy of a drawing by S. H. Grimm, in the British Museum." In Powell's Guide of 1819, a Mr. Edward Wenham occupied East Hill House, in the Tackleway. The author has visited this spot and compared the view with the scene presented at the present time from the Tackleway. The artist intended the houses to represent High Street on the one side and All Saints' Street on the other, with the Bourne Stream running between. There were no houses built in the Croft then, and the gardens represent the slopes to the East Hill, with All Saints' Church and Hastings House, with the tower, on the site of Old Humphrey Avenue; the present Golf Links above High Wickham, Fairlight Down and Halton, are shewn in the distance.

The Stade was that part of the foreshore from Rock-a-Nore to the present Harbour, and in the jurisdiction of the Corporation under their official called the Pier Warden. It is now covered with the Harbour Works, huts for fishermen's tackle, Fishmarket, the Fisherman's Church, the Dust Destructor, the East Hill Lift, Rock-a-Nore, and Mercer's Bank (see next page).

For centuries past Hastings was dependent chiefly for the coals and other necessities of life upon vessels of the class seen in the view on page 175. These vessels were a familiar sight until about twenty years ago. They would run ashore on the tide, and lay high and dry, when the operations of unloading the cargo presented a busy scene during low tide. There were several slip ways along the foreshore for horses and carts carrying the coals or other merchandise ashore at the Fishmarket, London Road, St. Leonards, and other places. The business during the 19th century was principally in the hands of Messrs. Breeds and Co., Mr. Will Ginner, and later Mr. W. E. Ginner, Messrs. Thwaites, Messrs. How, Messrs. Putland, etc. Several of these vessels were wrecked on the Hastings Beach from strong winds springing up while being unloaded, until the business was done by rail, when it gradually ceased. The well-



By Grimm.]

[Lent by Mr. F. G. Langham.

HASTINGS FROM MR. WENHAM'S HOUSE—1784.

(The original of this view is in the British Museum and dated 1784.)



By H. Reveley.]

[Lent by the late Mr. Chas. Dawson, F.S.A.

RARE VIEW OF THE STADE, SHEWING THE OLD PIER, 1790.

Opposite Rock-a-Nore and East Cliffs—shewing Old Buildings
on site of Pelham Place.



The two figures are standing on the West end of The Fort at East Parade. Date, about 1800.



[Lent by Mr. T. Parkin.]

A SKETCH ON THE BEACH—18TH CENTURY.

known vessel called the “Pelican” was about the last survivor. Besides the sea-borne business, there were four-horse waggons which plied regularly between Hastings and London, also to and from Brighton and Maidstone with goods and mails. They were called Fly Vans.



[Lent by Mr. Thos. Parkin

HOW COALS AND MERCHANDIZE WERE BROUGHT TO HASTINGS.

On the sign board of the Cutter Inn, which is one of the oldest, is the name of “James Bell,” whose name is in Powell’s Guide of 1819.

There are views of the Fishmarket of a hundred years ago, when all the business was done on the beach, with a row of temporary stalls. The old sailor near the Inn is wearing a pig-tail. This part



[Lent by Miss Clark.

ONE OF THE ROYAL FLY VANS, 1820.
(From a block found in Ransom’s Printing Office.)

of Hastings was then called “Beach Houses,” and consisted of a straggling lot of small houses dotted here and there, most of them let as lodgings to visitors.



[Lent by Mr. J. Foster.]

THE FISHMARKET, THE CUTTER INN, AND THE OLD LIGHTHOUSE.
By James Rouse ; probable date, 1815.

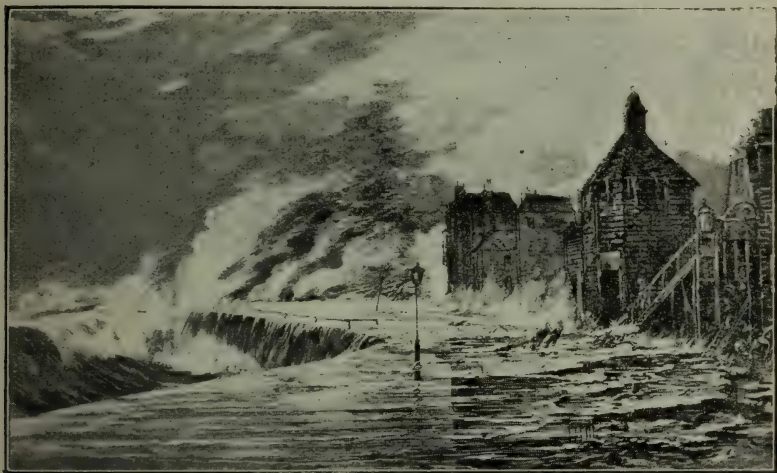


Photo.]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.]

THE FISHMARKET—1920.

The Corporation, in 1870, provided the "Rotunda" for the retail fishmongers, and later the building shown on page 176 for the landing and packing of the fish. The erection in the foreground is the lighting stage in connection with the lighthouse on the West Hill. The market opens at from 5 to 6 a.m.; several of the public houses around it having special licenses to open at 5 o'clock. The method of selling on the open beach by Dutch auction is still in vogue, no license being required. This is one of the sources of income which the Chancellor of the Exchequer has overlooked. The "Dutch" auctioneer can sell "on a falling price" without a license while those who sell "on a rising price" must pay £10 a year for the privilege. Buyers all stand round the heaps of fish, while the salesman names a price and begins to shout—"five bob," "four and nine," "four and six," and so on, until some buyer shouts "SNAP," or something like it, and the lot is his.



DESTRUCTIVE STORM AT EAST PARADE AND FISHMARKET, NOVEMBER
14TH, 1875.

(From a Snapshot taken at the time.)

The prominent building is the old Lighthouse, part of which still remains. The Lifeboat House now stands opposite this on the Parade, and succeeded the old Custom House.

If any reader will rise at five and pay a visit to the fishmarket while business is on, he or she may imagine they are in a foreign country—The dress and language so strange—One may be greeted with—"Marnin," You reply, "Good morning, much fish this morning?" "Dere's boco's (plenty) ob feesh dis marnin." Perhaps you will remark that the weather looks queer, and the reply is, "Yus, it looks plannety" (thundery). It is a common saying among the fishermen, "Ven de planets poke up in de westward and de clouds cum up agin de vind, its sure to raain."

This denote the pillary clouds which rise in the south-west some hours or days before a coming storm. All this is spoken with an accent resembling the “gobbling of a turkey with a sore throat.” “Var b’ze gwain?” “Down de Priory, will ye goo?” “No, I vaunt.” “Vy vaunt ye?” “Cos I vaunt, and dat’s vy.” “Law is ’laa.” To get rid of something you are better without, is to “git shet of it.” This language has probably been derived from much intercourse with the French Fishermen at sea, and brought down from father to son.

GEORGE STREET.

George Street, now quite a brisk business thoroughfare, between the Priory and the Bourne Valley, was probably not known or called by this name until the beginning of the 19th Century. Built outside the town wall it sprang into existence about the middle of the 17th Century and the locality was known as the “Suburbs.” The site is briefly alluded to in Barry’s Guide of 1797. In describing the town it states (p. 41), “At the bottom of the hill (referring to Old London Road), you enter a pleasant shady lane, on each side of which are tall spreading trees, whose branches in the summer form an impenetrable arch, through which you enter the town, consisting of two parallel streets of considerable length, running nearly north and south, and opening to the sea, with several *lesser ones intersected by gardens, and a suburb, which extends along the beach.*” This description is repeated in his 4th edition published and dated 1815. No mention is made of “George Street” until Powell published his Guide with a directory of the Lodging Houses,” dated 1819, where he mentions only 14 houses, including his own residence there. The late Mr. John Banks wrote “that he remembered George Street with only 14 houses, with the road lower than the side walks, where you went up steps at one end and down steps at the other.” Such was George Street a century ago. The only Inns mentioned are the “Anchor” and the “Hastings Arms.”

The writer and the late Mr. T. B. Brett had some correspondence in 1902 as to the origin of the name of George Street. It had been stated it was derived from Prince George of Cumberland, who laid the foundation stone of the Market Hall in 1833, while others attributed it to George’s Hill or St. George’s Hill (a former name for the East Hill). Neither of us believed in these theories. The writer afterwards found a title deed of some property dated May 23rd, 1827, wherein—“By Indentures of Lease and release of this date the release made between Edward Milward and others, and George Jackson of the sale of the site of a public house formerly situate at the eastern of George Street in the parish of St. Clement in Hastings and called the George Inn,” where Messrs. Peach and Simmonds shop is now, No. 73, and we came to the conclusion that this house gave the name to George Street. Owners of property in George Street might discover a more definite clue in their title deeds.

Moss, in his History, p. 145 (1824), writes: "Proceeding westward from High Street, we come into George Street, in which is situate the Workhouse." This is shewn in Powell's plan on page 115. Now 42, George Street, once the Literary Institution (1831), and Ransom's Printing Office under, and the Laboratory of the Education Department. The late Mr. William Ransom, but for whose encouragement with that of my late friend, Thomas Brandon Brett, this work might not have been thought of, was a printer. His father coming from Battle as a printer, began business in George



ONE OF THE EARLIEST HOUSES IN "SUBURB STREET."

Dated 1657.—Afterwards George Street.

(Sketched by the late John Goldsworthy Shorter, the Delineator of Stell's and Barry's Guides.)

It was known as "Mrs. Bodle's House."

Street about 1819. He died in 1855, when the business devolved upon his son William. The late Mr. Brett and the writer, also old printers and newspaper men, used to exchange notes on the progress in the methods and machinery in the printing trade during the



[Lent by the Museum Committee.]

OLD TIMBERED HOUSE IN GEORGE STREET.

From a Water Colour by Miss M. Johnson, about 1820.

This is believed to represent the house formerly the George Inn, then at the corner of High Street at the bottom of Oak Hill.



[Lent by Miss Clark.]

NO. 70, GEORGE STREET.

PENFOLD, Ironmongers (Successors, Messrs. Alderton & Shrewsbury,
Ironmongers.)

Now Mr. L. J. Butler, Hardwareman.

last 50 years which has revolutionised the business. It is not generally known that it was Mr. William Ransom who bought from the publishers, about 40 years ago, all the remaining copies of Moss's History at a few shillings each, which have since commanded a ready sale at from two to three guineas. Ransom's printing office is now carried on by Miss Clark, whose father was in Mr. Ransom's employ. Miss Clark kindly allowed the writer to make a selection of blocks from this old printing office to be used as illustrations in this book.



EASTERN END OF GEORGE STREET—1920.

Shewing the former Site of the "George Inn," and The Drawbridge Gate, at Oak Hill.

There are several specimens of the timbered houses still existing in George Street, Nos. 63, 64, and 65, between the two latter are the Light Steps leading to Hill Street, where is visible part of the Hastings Wall. About this spot was the Western Tower, shewn in the Map of 1746. At No. 17, now and for many years a Baker's shop, is below the level of the pavement and approached down some steps which is the case of several on the south side.

Having illustrated and described the Old Town in the Bourne Valley, we will now take the reader along the Sea Front and show the gradual development from East to West, starting from the East Cliff.

Peter Malaperte Thuillier Powell, founder of Powell's Library and Musical Lounge (now a Restaurant), the "New Warm Baths" (opposite the Russian Gun was the site of Thwaites and Winter's Ship Yard, where the Yacht "Queen Victoria," and the "Pelican," the last of the old trading vessels, were built) was once a well-known resident, who exerted himself largely in the promotion of entertainment for the few visitors to the town in



Photo.]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

THE PRESENT SITE OF POWELL'S LIBRARY—1920.

(Now a Restaurant, East Parade. West Street on the left.)

his time. His father was a Grandee of Spain, his mother an English lady. Mr. Powell was a man of great energy and enterprise, and published several editions of a Hastings Guide, illustrated with coloured views. In 1831, he, with his wife and family, emigrated to the United States, where he died, in 1850, aged 79, and his

widow died in 1865, aged 88. Their descendants of the third generation, whose business frequently called them to England, used to visit Hastings, where their grandfather spent many years of his early life. His library was well patronized by the upper classes who visited Hastings for health and pleasure.

Both Barry and Powell provided Musical Entertainments at their respective Libraries during the Season, and the Town Band and Military Bands from the Barracks played on the Parade in the summer season.

James Barry, The Marine Library, Marine Parade, near the Baths, also a Bookseller, Stationer, Pianoforte Dealer, and Fancy Warehouseman, facing the Swan Inn, High Street, was a man of indomitable energy and public spirit. He having purchased Stell's



[Lent by Mr. F. G. Langham.]

HASTINGS CASTLE AND ROCKS, AND THE OLD BATHING HOUSE,
1784.

(Copy of a drawing by S. H. Grimm, in the British Museum.)
This old Bathing House was the property of Mr. Edward Milward.

Library and the copyright of his Guide to Hastings, first published in 1794, Barry published a new and enlarged edition in 1797, and several editions followed this at intervals. He was also the proprietor of Warm Baths which stood on the Parade near the Russian Gun. In 1812 Barry was the prime mover in collecting subscriptions of about £1,300 for extending the Marine Parade from his library at the West end of George Street, to the West end of Pelham Place, which was accomplished some eight years afterwards. Visitors were then steadily increasing and were of a well-to-do class.



[Lent by Mr. J. Foster.]

MARINE PARADE AND BATHS—1812.



POWELL'S LIBRARY AND MARINE BOARDING HOUSE, EAST PARADE,
AND FORT, 1817.

The Marine Boarding House had previously been the Bank, under the style of Messrs. Mitchell, Mills, Ward & Co., also of Hailsham, the first Bank which had opened so far westward. The other Banks were Messrs. Tilden, Shadwell, Hilder, Harvey & Gill, at 90, High Street, and Messrs. Breeds, Farncombe, Breeds & Wenham, 85, High Street. All these Banks existed from the latter part of the 18th century. While Powell's Library, after its close, became the Bell Vue Hotel.



By W. G. Moss.]

MARINE PARADE AND BARRY'S LIBRARY, 1824.
(West End of George Street. Afterwards Diplock's
Library.)

The Flag is flying from the Battery.



Photo.]

F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

PRESENT SITE OF BARRY'S LIBRARY, MARINE PARADE—1920.
The name of Herrmann has disappeared. It is now a Restaurant.

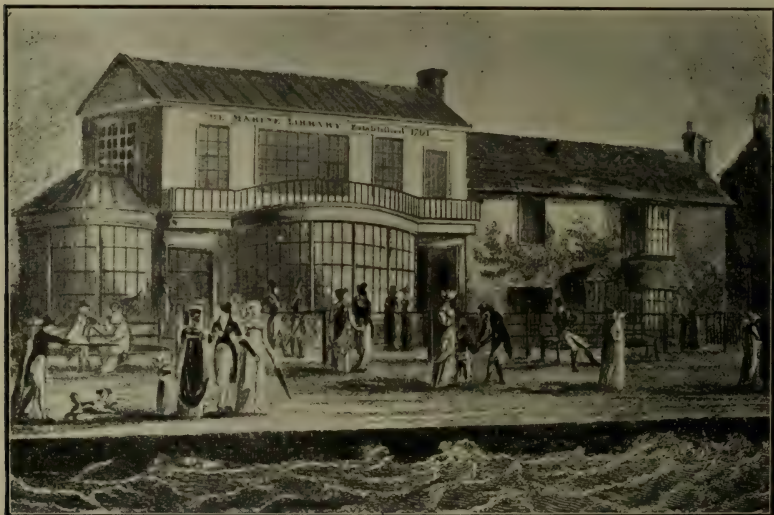


By W. Daniels.

[Lent by Mr. W. E. Brown.]

HASTINGS FROM THE EAST CLIFF.

Probable date 1810. Shewing the Fishing Boats and a Vessel on the Stade, a bit of Old Hastings, East Parade and The Fort, with guns mounted, Ruins of the Castle, and the Coast to Galley Hill, before the Modern Hastings or St. Leonards was built.

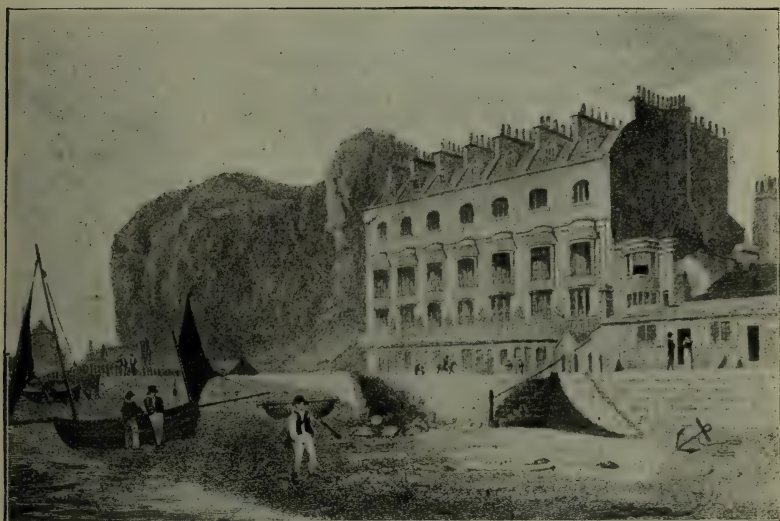


From Barry's Guide.]

[In the Author's Collection.]

BARRY'S LIBRARY, MARINE PARADE, 1791.
(The Fashionable Promenade of the time.)

Here is given Moss's view of the site of Pelham Place, Crescent, Breeds Place, and Castle Street, described on page 188.



By W. G. Moss.]

PART OF PELHAM PLACE, GUNNER ROSS'S COTTAGE, AND CASTLE CLIFF, 1824.



Photo.]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.]

PELHAM PLACE—1920.

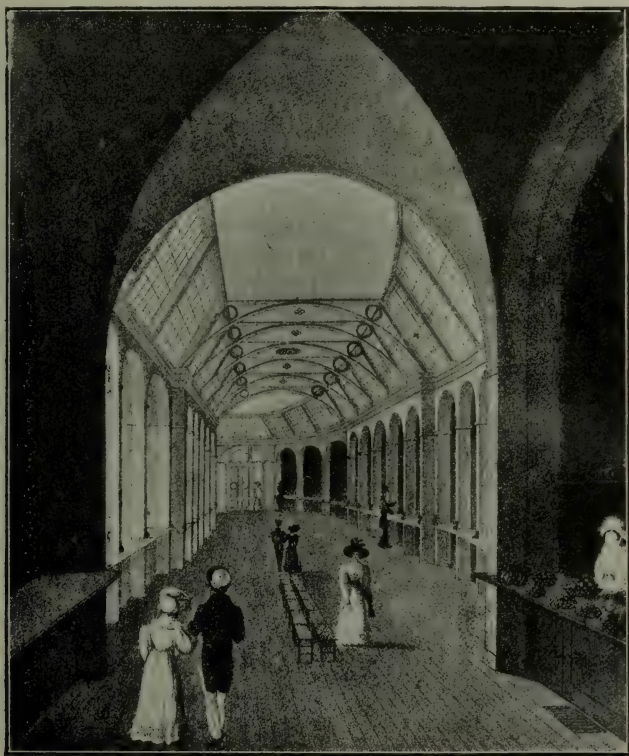
(And the Hippodrome, now the Royal Cinema de Luxe, or Picture Palace.)

The foreshore in the view given on page 186 was at the date a mere waste of stone-beach with here and there a few "shanties." The land was let by the Corporation to Mr. Edward Milward and probably represents the first Bathing Establishment, which preceded Mr. Barry's Warm Baths.

When Moss published his History in 1824, only seven houses of Pelham Place had been erected. He states (p. 145), "Pelham Place consists of a handsome range of modern houses, situated beneath the Chalk-cliffs and the end of the Marine Parade (of which it forms the Western extremity) and is one of those improvements in building which marks the rise of Hastings within the last few years, as well as a proof of the beneficial consequences of the Act of Parliament of the first year of his present Majesty, for paving and otherwise improving the town, and which gives to the Commissioners acting under it, much more ample powers for this purpose than any they were vested with under former Acts. The present buildings form part of a larger design *now in progress of execution*, with particulars of which we have been obligingly favoured by Mr. Kay, the Architect, and a representation of which, as intended when completed, is given in the annexed etching." This view in Moss shows the complete scheme, viz., 10 houses in Pelham Place, Pelham Crescent, St. Mary's Church with a high tower and dome, and Pelham Arcade. Most of these were well on towards completion in 1825. They were built by order of the owner, the Earl of Chichester. Pelham Place took a long time to build, as some writers state that they were commenced in 1820. It was in 1812 that the extension of the Marine Parade was carried out at a cost of about £1,300, the ground was before this time outside the Western boundary of Hastings, but shortly afterwards came under the jurisdiction of the Commissioners under their new Act. The Fort or Battery was erected about 1760, and mounted with six twelve pounder guns. The Government engineer was a Mr. Green, who married a daughter of Mr. John Collier, of Old Hastings House. Pelham Place soon became an important centre of the modern town, and the Royal Marine Hotel was formed by converting one or two of the houses. The landlord's name was Arthur Deudney, and after him Charles Pope Hutchings, under whose management it became famous. The Empress Eugenie of France made it her residence when exiled from her country in 1870, during Mr. Hutchings' time. After his death the Royal Marine passed through several hands, until the promoters of the Hippodrome purchased the property to erect the fine building shown in the view. Their purchase of the Hotel included all its furniture and fittings, which were dispersed by auction by the writer, the sale occupying a whole week. The plate consisted entirely of Old Sheffield and realized very high prices. The fittings and some souvenirs from the Empress's rooms found eager buyers. The Sale went into four figures. Sixty years ago, No. 9, Pelham Place was Beeching and Scrivens Bank. "In 1823 the Castle Cliff bordering the road leading

to the Priory has been sold for £2,110, and when cut down will afford space for ten houses." Brett's History.

The small house in Moss's view, page 187, was Pelham Cottage, and a century ago was occupied by Master Gunner Ross, father of the late Mr. Thomas Ross, Politician, Councillor, Alderman, Mayor, Justice of the Peace, Chairman of Guardians, Archæologist, Drawing Master, and Author and Publisher of Hastings Guides, from 6, Castle Street and Claremont. His father, Master Gunner Ross, had charge of the Fort or Battery at East Parade, was before this a soldier who had seen much foreign service. A Scotchman by birth. He was granted by the Government a 99 years' lease of this Cottage



[Lent by Mr. Chas. Dawson, F.S.A.]

PELHAM ARCADE, UNDER PELHAM CRESCENT—1825.
(Original drawn on Stone, by C. Hullmandel.)

and it is still held by the family. This old house known as Ross's Cottage, was practically rebuilt when the Hippodrome was erected. In 1840, the Emperor of the French, then Prince Louis Napoleon, lodged here for a short time, within a few feet of the same apartments at the Marine Hotel his Empress occupied when exiled in 1870, after the disaster at Sedan.

Pelham Arcade, the site of which was cut out of the Rock, and formerly a stonemason's yard, was part of the Earl of Chichester's scheme already referred to, designed by Mr. Kay. It was a fashionable rendezvous, where Musical Soirees were held nightly, a Bazaar, and fitted up with two rows of shops with a glass roof. A visitor writing from Hastings to his friend in London a series of letters "From a Cosmopolite to a Valetudinarian," published by Wooll, 5, High Street, Hastings, about 1825, describes his visit here thus:—"When near the end of the Parade we heard some music which proceeded from the Bazaar. We joined the circle that was walking round, while others sat and enjoyed the music. A young lady from the Theatre Royal sang an old song, which was received with applause and encored. We next joined in a game with cards, paid a shilling each, when the cards were dealt out, and whoever got the knave of clubs had a prize. We next went to the Library (Barry's) and heard a duetto from two young ladies. There were several billiard tables here." The Pelham Arcade was leased to a family named Moor, who held it about 70 years. The property was put up to auction a few months ago.

Above the Arcade is the Church of St. Mary-in-the-Castle, consecrated in 1828. It was built by the Earl of Chichester, the possessor of the Castle and Manor. The first stone was laid by the Countess of Chichester in 1825. It was consecrated by Dr. Carr, Bishop of Chichester. The Church is of a semi-circular form, with a gallery, and has seating accommodation for about 1,300, it is raised considerably above the roadway, having the Castle Cliff, which was cut away for the purpose, at its back. The first Incumbent was the Rev. W. Wallinger in 1828, who lived at Castle Down House in Wallinger's Walk, named after him. Then, by a strange coincidence, the next Incumbent was named Rev. W. T. Marychurch, 1834; the Rev. J. S. Jenkinson, 1835, followed by that famous preacher, the Rev. Thomas Vores, 1841 to 1875, then by the Rev. F. Whitfield, then Rev. W. T. H. Wilson. The present Minister is the Rev. R. Talbot.

Just opposite Pelham Crescent was the bed of an old harbour and a place called the "Condemned Hole," in which smuggling craft were placed and destroyed when taken by the Crown. The next view shows the former site of this.

The original of the view on page 191 is dated January 1st, 1822, published for "R. Ackerman's Views of Hastings." This is two years anterior to Moss's view, and is proof of the fact already stated that Pelham Place and Crescent took a long time to build. The first seven houses in Pelham Place in this view are shown in Moss's History, 1824, therefore two years elapsed without a move being made in this locality.

Breeds Place next claims attention. It consists of 10 houses These were built by Mr. James Lansdell, a builder from Battle, who

married a Miss Breeds, and perpetuated her name. They bear the date of 1828. No. 5 and 6 was once a "Royal Residence," for in 1833 they were occupied by Prince George of Cumberland, afterwards King of Hanover, and during his residence was visited by the Duchess of Kent and Princess Victoria (our late Queen), then staying at the new town of St. Leonards. During Prince George's stay he laid the foundation stone of the Market Hall, George Street. The house (now in one) still bear traces of its original character in the entrance hall, and the fine dining hall is beautifully wainscotted. During the 21 years' occupation of Mr. F. Gildersleeves as a Boarding Establishment, who named it "Stanton House Royal," he placed the fine mirrors in the entrance hall, which reflected the moulded



By J. Gendall.]

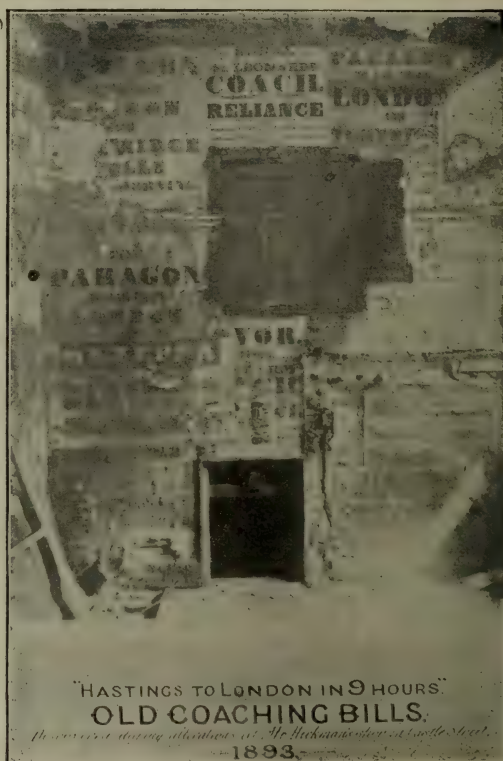
[Lent by Mr. A. G. Fidler.

THE SITE OF PELHAM PLACE, CRESCENT, BREEDS PLACE, AND
CASTLE STREET, DATED 1822.

ceiling, producing a grand vista resembling an avenue. These were removed on his relinquishing occupation in 1909. It has now become the headquarters of the Y.M.C.A., and the Royal Arms are placed over the entrance, and is admirably adapted to this growing institution. Opposite Breeds Place is Caroline Place, where the Corporation has made a splendid open promenade on the spot which was formerly Ransom and Ridley's Shipyard, represented in the previous view, where ships were built of considerable tonnage, for use in all parts of the world. Both these partners occupied houses in York Buildings. Next is Castle Street, the site of which was

carved out of that part of the Castle Cliff called the Gun Garden, which is seen in the following views.

Mr. Thomas Ross, who had been apprenticed to a Mr. Waghorne, house painter, decorator, and grainer, commenced his career, and probably acquired his knowledge of drawing, which enabled him to become an efficient draughtsman and a fair artist. He afterwards opened the shop at 6, Castle Street, for the sale of pictures, stationery, and fancy goods, from which address he issued the first edition of Ross's Hastings and St. Leonards Guide in 1835, printed by W. Ransom, 60, George Street, with one view of the avenue in Old Lon-



[Lent by Mr. J. Parsons.]

“A RELICT OF THE COACHING DAYS.”

This was discovered during the rebuilding of Mr. Hickman's premises, No. 14, Castle Street, now a butcher's shop, when a photograph was taken from which this is reproduced. The premises were once used as a Booking Office for the Coaches.

don Road, from his own drawing, and a plan of the Environs of Hastings. His guide frequently augmented, as the town progressed, ran into thirteen editions. Mr. Ross was once in partnership with

the late Mr. Thomas Mann, as printsellers, at Claremont, where The "Black Cat" Tea Rooms now are. He became an Antiquarian, and carried out extensive excavations on the East Hill and at the ruins of Bulverhythe Church. The Museum contains a Ross Collection of great and varied interest.



[Lent by the late Mr. Chas. Dawson, F.S.A.]

HASTINGS CASTLE, SUSSEX.

Published March 1st, 1772, by B. Godfrey, shewing the opening of Priory Valley. The dark long object like a hedge, the late Mr. Chas. Dawson believed, represents an entrenchment.



[Lent by the late Mr. Chas. Dawson, F.S.A.]

THE RUINS OF THE CASTLE FROM THE WEST.

Shewing Cart Lodge, and Haymakers, on the Priory Farm.
Date about 1790. Artist unknown.



Marianne Johnson.

[Lent by the Museum Committee.]

HASTINGS CASTLE, SHEWING THE GUN GARDEN AND LIME KILNS.
Date about 1815.



By H.H., 1807.]

[Lent by Mr. Thos. Parkin]

THE CASTLE ROCK AND CASTLE LANE, SHEWING "THE CONDEMNED
HOLE."

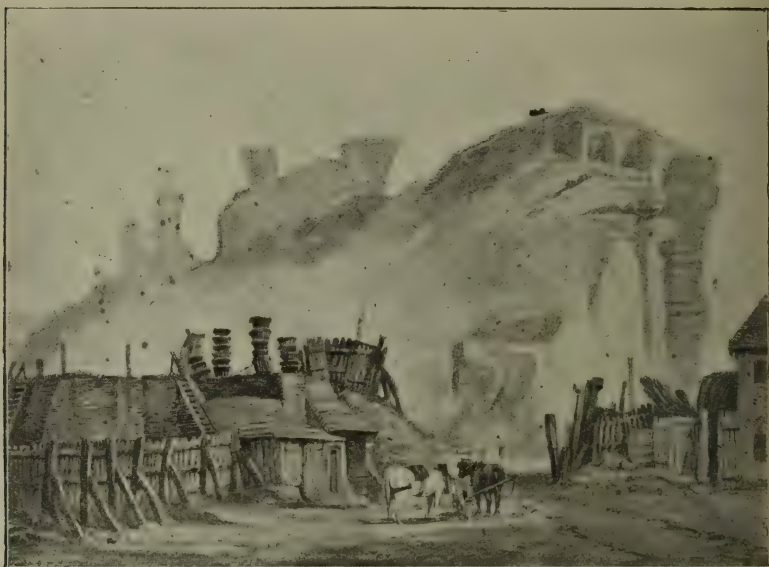
Leaving Castle Street, is “The Priory,” as the busiest part of Modern Hastings was called a hundred years ago—when all beyond the Castle Cliffs was open country. Wellington Square was the Priory Field, looking down on the Priory Farm on the west, the Brook Meadows, when “The White Rock” projected so far into the sea as to shut out the view westward, when the Alexandra Park was ozier beds and hop-gardens, and Old Roar, Gensing Valley, and the Priory Farm were places to which inhabitants of the Old Town resorted for excursions and picnics, and beyond which the Corporation had no jurisdiction. Such are the changes which time has wrought. Several views of the former site of Wellington Square at various periods, lent by different collectors, are here given.



[Lent by the late Mr. J. Foster.]

HASTINGS CASTLE FROM THE PRIORY.

This view of the Castle from the west, was drawn by J. Nixon, and engraved by Harding, and published on January 1st, 1800, by Edward Harding, 98, Pall Mall. The hillocks on the left were part of the present site of Wellington Square, before the Lime Kilns were built, and formed a portion of the Priory Farm. The water with the boat in it was the Priory Stream. On showing this view to Mr. Charles Dawson, F.S.A., he expressed an opinion that the round piece of water was a saltpan, and similar to that in his view on page 193.



Marianne Johnson.

[Lent by the Museum Committee.]

THE LIME KILNS ON THE SITE OF WELLINGTON SQUARE, AND THE CASTLE, 1815.



By J. Rouse.

[Lent by Mr. T. Parkin.]

THE CASTLE HOTEL, WELLINGTON SQUARE, 1816, SHEWING BOHEMIA HOUSE IN THE DISTANCE

This hotel has now been modernised and greatly improved.

Wellington Square, as will be seen in the foregoing views, was a hill sloping down from the Castle, as it still slopes, though at a less incline. In Powell's Guide and Directory of Lodging Houses, 1819, he mentions 14 houses in York Buildings, 5 at the back of York Buildings, now called York Gardens, the Castle Hotel, 12 (now 21) in Wellington Place, (afterwards called Wellington Square), 14 in Blucher Place, (now Russell Street), 6 Castle Cottages, and Beach Cottages, 16 houses scattered between the White Rock and Marine Baths (near the Russian Gun). This locality is now Pelham Street, Denmark Place, and Caroline Place. Moss's History, 1824, mentions the Castle Hotel as having been recently built, and states: "Wellington Place adjoins the Castle Hotel, and consists of a double range of very handsome



Photo.]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

WELLINGTON SQUARE, 1920.

(Shewing the Castle Hotel.)

houses, forming *two* sides of a square with an oval plantation in front. The views of the surrounding country, Beachy Head, and the sea, from this spot, are particularly picturesque." By this it would appear from its incompleteness it was not yet called a Square. It is on record that the Castle Hotel was opened by Mr. Emary in 1816. This land was purchased from Mr. Milward in 1815 by the Banking Firm of Thomas Breeds, Farncombe, Boykett Breeds and Werham, for a large sum of money, and a rich deposit of brick-earth was discovered, and bricks were made, some of which were used in the building of the Castle Hotel. The same firm were



[Lent by Mr. E. A. Notcutt.]

A VERY RARE VIEW OF THE FIRST PRIORY BRIDGE (a wooden one)
AND THE WHITE ROCK, 18th Century.

This Bridge marked the western boundary of the Hastings Corporation. The waste land with buildings was the "America Ground."

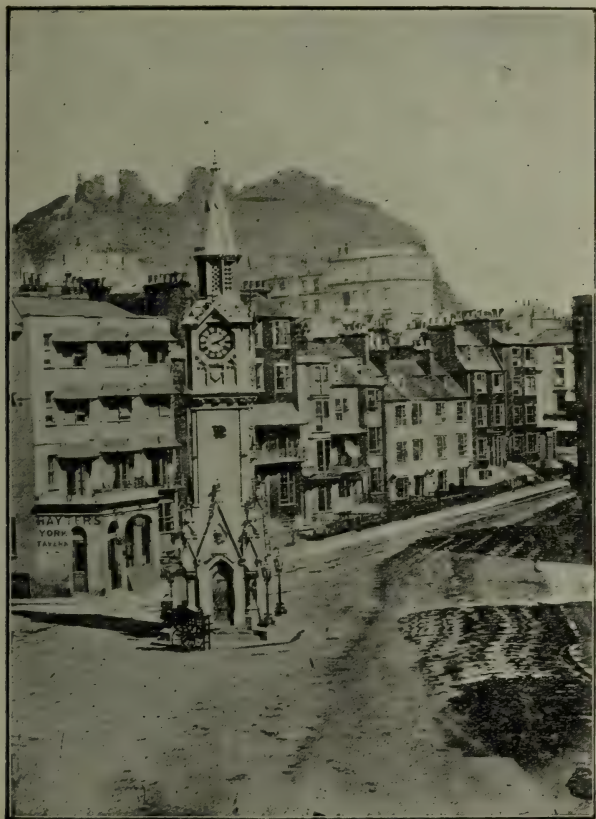


[From the Author's Collection.]

THE SECOND PRIORY BRIDGE (a stone one).—1831.
(Now the site of the Albert Memorial.)

owners of the Lime Kilns ; lime-burning being an extensive industry at the time.

The Baptist Chapel was built there by a Mr. Fletcher, in 1838, as a thank offering for the recovery of his daughter from a serious illness. The houses were readily let at rents ranging from £80 to £100 a year, and were largely occupied by Doctors and other well-to-do residents. The Castle Hotel with spacious stabling ran down to Meadow Road, and was for many years carried on by the late Mr. George Gaze, who sold a portion of the site to the Castle Hotel



[From the Author's Collection.]

ALBERT MEMORIAL AND YORK BUILDINGS BEFORE THE SHOPS WERE ADDED.—1873.

Co., Ltd., and built the Gaiety Theatre and Gaiety Hotel on the Queen's Road frontage. The Theatre is also in the hands of a Limited Company. At the north-east corner of the Square is an opening leading to the West Hill and Hastings Castle, and going in this direction was the site of the ancient Church of "Saint Andrew before the Castle," the ruins of which, according to

Horsfield's "Sussex," stood about 1820. The old St. Mary's Cemetery is close by.

The Memorial Clock Tower is on the site of the former Priory Bridge. The Old York Hotel, formerly kept by Councillor James Hayter, was purchased by the Corporation for street improvements at this busy corner.

On reference to the maps of Hastings of 1291 and 1746, will be seen the Old Haven, which is shown flowing through the Priory Valley now the Queen's Road and Alexandra Park, and mentioned in Cole's "Antiquities of Hastings," as the *Portus Novus* of the Roman period. It was fed from the Old Roar stream which still runs through the Alexandra Park and carried to the sea through two



Photo.]

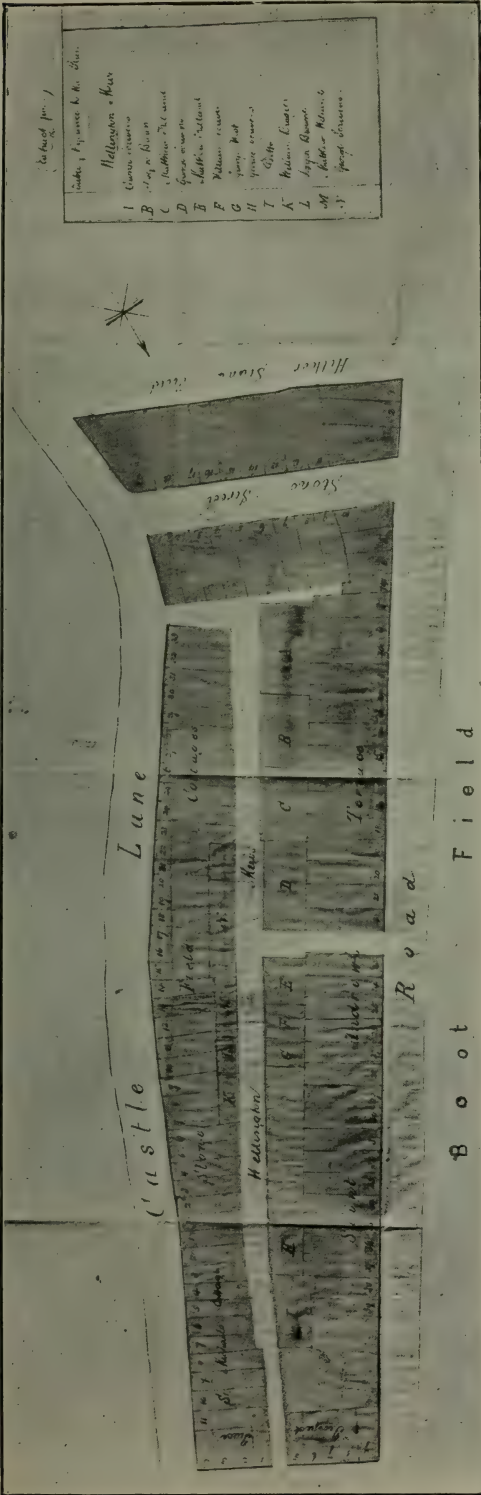
[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

THE ALBERT MEMORIAL, BEFORE THE TRAMS CAME.

The former site of the Priory Bridge. (Now the busiest spot in Hastings.)

culverts opposite the Queen's Hotel. This small stream was open to the sea until the Buckshole Reservoir was constructed and the last Priory Bridge disappeared after 1835 or thereabouts. The greater part of the Priory Valley consisted of meadows and farm-lands owned by Sir Godfrey Webster, of Battle Abbey, from whom they passed to Mr. Edward Milward, in 1812, for the sum of £30,000, being then in the tenure and occupation of John Phillips, his under tenants or assigns. The Priory Farm Estate is mentioned in Barry's Guide of 1797, as belonging to Sir Horace Mann. The first

PLAN OF PART OF ST. ANDREW'S ROAD—NOW QUEEN'S ROAD.
This blank part is now covered by Milward Road and Crescent and Nelson Road.



Castle Lane is now Stonefield Road. The lower part represents from Stone Street to the Fountain Hotel, opposite the Gas Offices, Queen's Road.

The Boot Field appears in the Collier Plan, No. 57. In 1824 it was known as the Upper Brook and Lower Brook.

mention of building operations in the Valley is Meadow Cottages and Blucher Place, in Powell's Guide of 1819. Soon after this, Meadow Road, from Albert Road to the Bedford Hotel, now Nos. 10 to 35, Queen's Road, were built. The only plan of the Valley the author has been able to obtain is here shown, and is part of the Sayer-Milward Estate, which was sold by auction, the purchasers' names being given in the margin. In 1823 Queen's Road, from the Post Office to the Theatre was called Meadow Cottages.

The site of the Gas Works and Waterworks Road was the property of the Countess Waldegrave from her first husband, Mr. Edward Milward, junior, from whom she inherited it. On the site of the Gas Works was Water Mill House, also shown in the Collier Plan. This old Water Mill was worked by the Priory Stream, for what purpose is not related. It was removed to build the Gas Works which were opened in 1830. The Gas Company had Offices at 45, High Street, in 1852, when Mr. Will Ginner was Clerk. St. Andrew's Church, in Queen's Road was consecrated November 30th, 1870, the late Rev. George Hodges, the father of the late Canon Alfred Hodges and Archdeacon George Hodges, of St. James, Bury St. Edmunds, was the first Vicar. The Church was built by the Misses Sayer, descendants of the Milward family, who resided for many years at Parade House, George Street, now occupied by Dr. W. Daunt. At the bottom of Queen's Road was once a railway viaduct, or tunnel, generally known as the St. Andrew's Archway, which was removed in 1898, mainly through the exertions of the late Alderman Tuppenney, who initiated the movement in the Council, which resulted in the final determination to replace the "hideous hole" by the erection of the noble iron viaduct now spanning Queen's Road. Alderman Tuppenney was elected Mayor that year, a fitting reward for his achievement.

The Blacklands district beyond the Archway has become a populous and popular residential one, the laying out and building of which is within the recollection of the present older inhabitants: Blacklands Farm, where Elphinstone Road is, named after Sir Howard Elphinstone, the owner of the land; St. Helen's Road, once part of the farm, will be remembered by the first house built there by the late Alderman Thomas Ross, one of the historians of Hastings, and called Ross's Folly. He was thought mad to retire to this spot, but lived to see it peopled, and was, with the late Mr. H. M. Baker, one of the first Churchwardens of Blacklands Church, where Canon Alfred Hodges laboured for over 30 years. "Old Wyatt," as the owner was known amongst residents, whose large white house stood in Mount Pleasant Road, was a conspicuous landmark 40 years ago. He was the owner of considerable land in the immediate neighbourhood. Mr. H. E. Wyatt was formerly a London Brewer. He got into trouble for trying to stop up public footpaths, and did not love the Public Authorities over much for stepping in to prevent him. When the old Rock Fair ceased to be held at White Rock, he found

accommodation for the showmen who came here annually, in a field now Manor Road, where a fair was held some years till it gradually ceased. Mr. Wyatt died about 50 years ago, and his widow and children resided there for some years after. At the death of Mrs. Wyatt they removed from the town, and the residence stood until it became almost a ruin. The old house was sold by auction some time ago and was acquired by a local builder, who demolished it, and the ground is now covered by modern houses. It contained some costly sculptured marble fireplaces, and other fittings, which were dispersed by auction about 20 years ago, and realized upwards of £800, the marble mantel pieces going to America. Its site is now occupied by the residence of Dr. Carnock Smith and adjacent houses.



Photo]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd

VIEW IN ALEXANDRA PARK AT THE PRESENT TIME.

The beautiful Alexandra Park was created by a celebrated Scotch landscape gardener, who absorbed the Newgate and Shornden Woods, adapting them to the formation of pleasure grounds. The original and small portion near the Queen's Road entrance was known as Shirley's Pond, and when first opened to the public, was called St. Andrew's Gardens. They were extended to Bucks-hole and a park carried through Shornden Wood out to Bohemia. On June 26th, 1882, Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales opened the extension during the Mayoralty of the late Mr. W. F. Revill. Its lovely woodland dells, flower beds, lawns, lakes, and the stream running through all, have now made it one of the loveliest Parks on the South Coast, containing an area of about 77 acres. The Royal visits were commemorated by planting two trees marked by tablets.

The beautiful district of St. Helen's Wood which was opened up some years ago, when several auction sales of the land took place at the Kite's Nest Hotel, but the development has not been so rapid as was anticipated by the promoters.



CHRIST CHURCH, BLACKLANDS, AS IT NOW IS.

This Church was beautified by the late Mrs. Todd, in memory of her late husband, who formerly lived at Oakwood, St. Helen's Park. It was built in 1877, and consecrated July 14th, 1881, the Tower and Bells being added in 1891.

Emerging from St. Helen's Wood the Borough Cemetery is reached, and close by is St. Helen's Church, Ore. Turning down the Old Ore Lane, now called Elphinstone Road, opposite the Cemetery Gates, just off the road, are the ruins of the Old Church of St. Helen's, Ore.

In 1794, at the time of his death, General James Murray, the first Governor of Quebec, who married a Miss Collier, daughter of Mr. John Collier, was Lord of the Manor of Ore, and was buried in Ore Churchyard, and there was a monument to his memory in the Church. Brett says: "I was sometime in the choir of Ore Church, along with Alexander, James, and Benjamin Giles, uncles of the Organist, William Giles, and Mrs. Hermitage, née Dinah Giles, (grandmother of the present Messrs. Hermitage). I remember its



[Lent by Mr. Arthur Watson.]

KITE'S NEST COTTAGE, BLACKLANDS.

From a Water Colour by Mr. A. Watson.

This thatched Cottage formerly stood upon the site of the Bungalow, in St. Helen's Park Road, and was occupied by a dairy-man named Bates. The spot is now covered by modern houses.



[Lent by Mr. Thos. Parkin.]

ORE PLACE, NEAR OLD ORE CHURCH.

By G. Rowe, published by P. M. Powell, Hastings.

Large additions have been made and Ore Place is occupied as a Jesuits' College.

being enlarged in 1841, the same year Ore Place was purchased by General Sir Howard Elphinstone. I also remember the last service performed in the old Church in 1870, previous to its being dis-used, when a large number of children were baptised. The late Rev. Dr. Fearon laboured there for many years, and lived at the Rectory, in Ore Lane." His name is perpetuated in Fearon Road, called after him. The ruins of the Church are almost hidden by the trees that surround it.

The Borough Cemetery is close by. It was opened in 1856, and the first body buried in it was that of a man named Smith, who was contractor for the Earl of Chichester, for cutting down and clearing the Castle Cliffs for building purposes.



[Lent by Mr. A. F. Wood.]

THE VILLAGE CHURCH, ORE, AND HOUSE.

By H. Morton, 1817. Now in Ruins.

"In 1269, John of Gaunt received the Honour of Hastings and built a house adjoining Ore Church," Cole's *Antiquities*, p. 95. This will be found on the Map of 1291. It is recorded in Horsfield's "*Sussex*" that "it was built by John O'Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, and afterwards converted into a religious house." After General Sir Howard Elphinstone's widow's death, the house was purchased by a Mr. T. Pannell, who resold it in 1863 to Mr. T. B. Spalding, by whom the old house was practically re-built; but in one of the windows were the Arms of John of Gaunt. It is now a very extensive house and grounds used as a College for Jesuits and Students. Its position is on an eminence and commands most



THE PRESENT TOWN HALL, QUEEN'S ROAD.
Opened September 7th, 1881, by the late Mr. W. F. Revill, Mayor.



Photos]

[F. J. Parsons Ltd.

THE GAIETY THEATRE, OPENED AUGUST, 1882.
(Opposite the Town Hall.)

beautiful land and sea views, and it is seen from all parts of the neighbourhood, especially from the circular route on the trams.

In the Queen's Road is the General Post Office, the Town Hall and the Gaiety Theatre.

During late years, Queen's Road has gradually become a busy commercial thoroughfare.

Returning to the Memorial and carrying one's mind back no longer than a century ago, one could have stood on the old wooden structure marked on the early maps, "Priory Bridge," and looked up the Priory Valley without seeing anything beyond the Water Mill House down the Brooks, and a few old farm buildings scattered about the Priory Farm, and the Priory Stream, meandering through the valley where the Cricket Ground is, and running westward along the present site of Pelham Street; and on the western side of the valley, the Priory Farm, and White Rock, jutting far into the sea.

On the site of the Farm was an Old Priory of the Holy Trinity, founded in 1191, and destroyed by an inundation of the sea about 1430. Relics of this Priory were discovered in 1796 when a pond was drained off, and consisted of enormous sluice gates and timbers of huge dimensions.

A lot of old shanties on the America ground, fully described elsewhere, were beyond the jurisdiction of the Corporation. The site of the present railway station, Havelock Road, and Cambridge Road, as far as Priory Street, were then on a level with the sea, and once the bed of the Old Haven. Robertson Street and Terrace Carlisle Parade, Trinity Street, and Harold Place had not been dreamt of. The Priory Farm was tenanted by a Mr. Foster, and was a favourite resort for picnics. The writer has spoken with several inhabitants, now past the meridian of life, who used to stay there when youngsters for a change.

Naturally, like St. Leonards, this part of the Borough has undergone marvellous changes. The writer of Diplock's Guide of 1846 says:—"South-east of the Priory Farm is what is called the Government Ground, which has been considered as offering the most eligible site for a harbour or docks. Several surveys have been made at different times and plans drawn out; the first, by the late Sir John Rennie, civil engineer, in 1816, and in 1837 by Mr. Cubitt and Mr. Brooks, civil engineer, for the site opposite the Government Ground, at the estimated expense of £150,000. This proposed harbour is shewn in the Panorama of Hastings.



[By J. Barnard.]

[Lent by Mr. E. A. Notcutt.]

THE OLD PRIORY FARM, HASTINGS.
(Now Cambridge Gardens.)



[From the Author's Collection.]

THE WHITE ROCK FROM THE EAST SIDE.

Removed about 1834.

THE “AMERICA GROUND” OR THE DERELICT LANDS AT HASTINGS.

I am indebted to the Controller of His Majesty's Stationery Office for his permission to reproduce the Official Plan of the Derelict Lands at Hastings, and the Report of the Commissioners of His Majesty's Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues, to the Government, of the steps taken to determine by Act of Parliament the ownership of this waste land with the view of clearing the ground.

This part of modern Hastings has undergone greater changes than any other spot in the Borough. It was left a waste by the reflux of the sea, and was outside the jurisdiction of the Corporation of Hastings. It may be defined as the present site now covered by Harold Place, the Queen's Hotel, Robertson Terrace, Carlisle Parade, Robertson Street, Trinity Street, and Claremont, and formed the mouth of the Old Haven depicted in the Map of Hastings of 1746, shewn on another page. The inhabitants of Hastings took possession without leave, licence, or interference, and built houses, shanties, warehouses, and other erections, for which they paid no rent or consideration. The result was that frequent tumults arose, and the place became a “No Man's Land,” as it was sometimes called. The Corporation approached the Government to take some steps to get rid of the nuisance.

This was ultimately done, then followed the development of building operations and the erection of the fine streets, terraces and parade, already mentioned. The series of views are arranged so as to shew the reader the gradual changes effected in this locality from 1834 to the present day.

OFFICIAL REPORT (published by permission).

“Extract from the Seventh Report of the Commissioners of His Majesty's Woods, Forests and Land Revenues; being the First Annual Report of the said Commissioners.”

“In obedience to an Act passed in the 10th year of the Reign of His Majesty George IV., instituted ‘An Act to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to the Management and Improvement of His Majesty's Woods, Forests, Parks and Chañes, of the Land Revenue of the Crown within the Survey of the Exchequer in England, etc.’ ”

[These Derelict Lands, which will be seen by the annexed Plan, included that portion of the Coast line from the West bank of the Priory Water (West of present Memorial to Claremont) and described in the Report to the Lords Commissioners. These Lands were commonly called “The America Ground,” “No Man's Land,” or “The Desert,” and formed the present site of Harold Place, Carlisle Parade, Robertson Terrace, Robertson Street, Trinity Street and Claremont, and was for ages part of the bed of The Haven and

Site of Memorial.

Harold Place.

Queen's Hotel.



Site of Cambridge Gardens.

Claremont.

Robertson St. & Carlisle Parade.

PLAN OF THE ORIGINAL SITE OF ROBERTSON STREET, ROBERTSON TERRACE,
CARLISLE PARADE, TRINITY STREET, CLAREMONT AND HAROLD PLACE.

shewn on the Corporation Map of 1746, and said to have been navigable up to Hole Farm.]

The following is an extract from the Report issued from the Office of Woods and Forests :—

“ OFFICE OF WOODS AND FORESTS,

“ *April 14th*, 1829.

“ MY LORDS,—We beg to transmit to Your Lordships herewith Copy of a Letter we lately received from Mr. Green, our Solicitor, inclosing two bills, which were some time since transmitted to him by Mr. Miller, of Bedford Row, Solicitor ; one amounting to £43 18s., in respect of business done in the investigation of a Claim which he had been advised to institute on behalf of the Crown to certain lands at Rye, and the other for £27 8s., for his professional assistance in establishing the title of the Crown to a considerable tract of Derelict Land *near* Hastings, which has within these few years been taken possession of by a number of persons who have erected a great many Houses and other Buildings thereon, without any authority from Your Lordships, or from this Department, for so doing, or paying any rent to the Crown for the ground in acknowledgment of the Crown's title thereto.

“ The last-mentioned lands adjoin to the town of Hastings, under the Western Cliff, and occupy a space of nearly a quarter of a Mile in length and 500 yards in width, which from its situation and appearance was, without doubt, formerly part of the seashore, upon which the sea in its ordinary tides used to flow and re-flow, the Cliff, immediately under which it is situated bearing evident marks of having formed the ancient barrier against the sea, and of having been in former times overflowed by the daily and ordinary tides, but that by the accumulation of the shingles, the sea has gradually receded, leaving the ground in question waste, and for very many years totally un-productive.

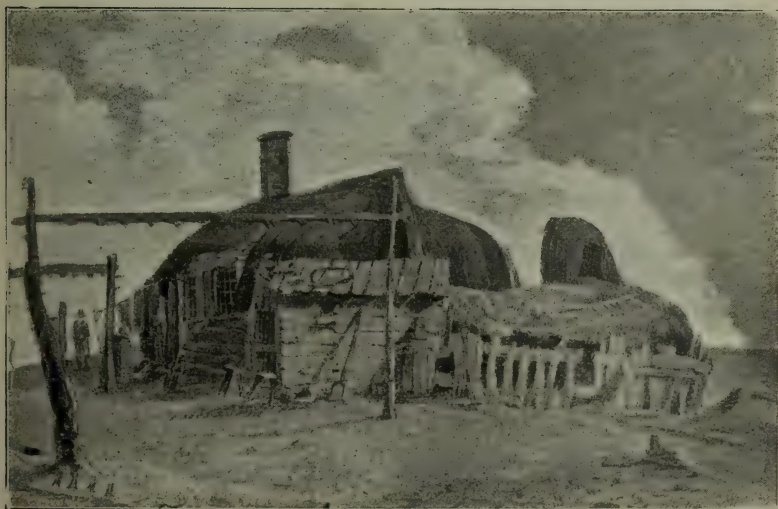
“ The great increase, however, which has taken place in the population of the town of Hastings within these twenty years having created a great demand for Building Ground in the neighbourhood of the town, the land was gradually encroached upon by the erection of Buildings thereon, some under leases, or with the permission of Lord Chichester, who claimed the whole of the ground as owner or lord under a grant thereof in the reign of James the First, and others, with the sanction of the Corporation of Hastings, who claimed that part of the land which lies within the liberty of the town, under a Grant made to the Corporation in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and small rents or acknowledgments were paid to his Lordship, and to the Corporation, by several of the parties by whom the Buildings were erected.

“ Having some years since, received information that by neither of these Grants was the ground in question conveyed either to Lord Chichester, or to the Corporation of Hastings, but that the whole would be found to belong to the Crown, we laid a case in the



[From the Author's Collection.]

THE WHITE ROCK, shewing the road round it, and the "America Ground" covered with buildings, about 1824, before being cleared by the Government.



[Lent by the Museum Committee.]

THE ROPE WALK (now the site of Robertson Street)—
Early 19th century.

year 1826, before the Law Officers for their opinion, as to the most eligible mode of proceeding for the establishment of the title of the Crown thereto, and under their advice an inquisition was taken at Battle, on the 6th Dec., 1827, when the ground in question, consisting of Two Parcels, one marked (A.) on the annexed Plan, containing 7a. 1r. 10p., and the other marked (B.), containing 1a. 39p., was found and declared to have been in former times covered with the sea, and to be Waste Land, not within the bounds of any Manor or Manors, and unoccupied until within 60 years, within which period many Buildings have been erected thereon without any License, Lease, or Grant of any description from the Crown, and that therefore the inquest had caused the same to be seized into the hands of His Majesty.

“ We have not yet been able to bring the claim to the property at Rye, to the same satisfactory termination, but as Mr. Miller’s bills are certified to us by Mr. Green to be fair and reasonable, and further, that he afforded him great assistance in collecting evidence in support of His Majesty’s title to the property at Hastings, and in making the necessary arrangements for holding the inquisition, we beg leave to recommend that we may be authorised to pay the same, amounting together to the sum of £71 6s. 4d.

“ We are, my Lords,

“ Your Lordships’ most obedient servants

“ LOWTHER.

“ W. D. ADAMS.

“ To the Right Hon. the Lords Commissioners of

“ His Majesty’s Treasury.”

“ OFFICE OF WOODS, ETC.,

31st December, 1829.

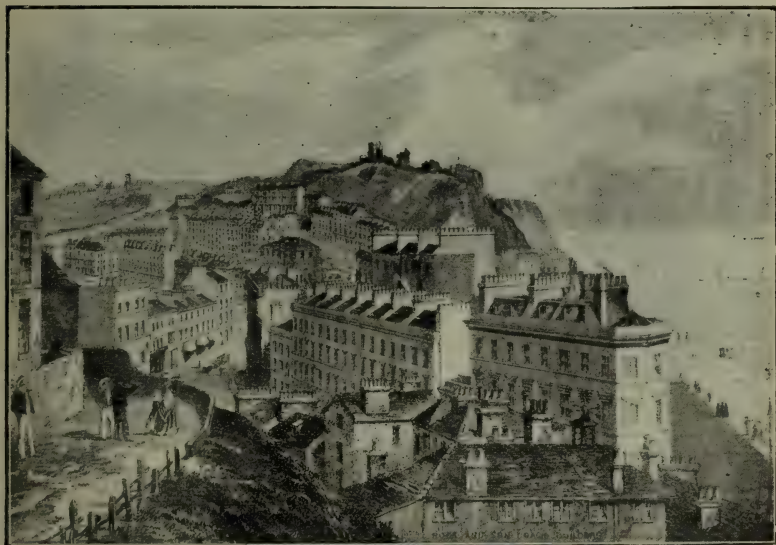
“ My Lords.—In our Report to your Lordships dated the 14th of April last, on the application then made by Mr. Miller, of Bedford-row, Solicitor, for payment of his bill for his professional assistance in establishing the title of the Crown to a considerable tract of Derelict Land, at Hastings, lying under the Western Cliff, near the lands called The Priory, on which a number of Houses had been erected by various persons without any authority for that purpose, we stated the particulars attending the discovery of the property in question and the steps we had taken for establishing the title of the Crown thereto. Since that time we have caused an accurate survey to be made of the whole of the property, by Messrs. Driver, our Surveyors, for that District, when we directed them not merely to certify the present state of value of the whole of the Houses and other Buildings erected on the land, and the names of the holders of them, but also to state the circumstances under which they came into their possession, whether as the original occupiers of the land, on which they afterwards erected Buildings or as the purchasers of the Buildings from the parties who originally



[Lent by the late Mr. James Foster

THE "AMERICA GROUND" FROM THE COASTGUARD STATION,
CUCKOO HILL.

The large open space, after being cleared of the houses shewn in the plan by the Government, and now covered by Carlisle Parade, Queen's Hotel, Robertson Terrace, Robertson Street, Trinity Street, and Claremont. View published by Geo. Curling Hope, 1850.



[Lent by Mr. W. E. Brown.

THE "AMERICA GROUND" FROM THE COASTGUARD STATION,
CUCKOO HILL,

After the building of Robertson Street, Claremont, &c. In the foreground is Rock's Carriage Works, White Rock.

built them, and what sums they paid for the same, in order that we might judge what terms it would be equitable to grant them on their relinquishing entirely the Premises they respectively held, or on their taking Leases thereof for such periods as it might be judged advisable to grant of the property.

“When that survey was completed, we directed Mr. Driver to proceed to Hastings, and, with the assistance of Mr. Crawley, one of the partners of Mr. Green, our Solicitor, to endeavour to make arrangements with the whole of the parties, and in particular with Messrs. Breeds, of Hastings, who held a very large proportion of the property, for Leases of the Premises respectively held by them, for the term of seven years from Christmas, 1828, with instructions to inquire minutely into the circumstances attending each particular case, and to apportion the rent accordingly, it being specially stipulated that at the end of the proposed term the parties should deliver up the whole of the Premises in good tenantable repair, without having any claim whatever for compensation for any Sums they might have previously laid out in the improvement of the property.

“Messrs. Crawley and Driver accordingly proceeded to Hastings in the month of April last, and after much negotiation with Messrs. Breeds and the other parties, agreements were fully entered into with the whole of them for Leases of the Premises they respectively held for the before-mentioned term of seven years, and we now beg leave to lay the following Statement before Your Lordships, in which we have given a brief description of the Premises, with the annual value thereof, and the Rents agreed to be paid by the respective Lessees for the same.

“These Rents, it will be seen, amount to nearly one half of the annual value of the Premises, and when it is considered that many of the Parties erected Buildings under agreements with Lord Chichester, or the Corporation of Hastings, who they believed were entitled to the ground in question, while others laid out large sums in the purchase of these Premises from the original holders, in the confidence that they had a title to dispose of them, we hope Your Lordships will agree with us in thinking that in the arrangement we have made with them, the parties have been treated with a proper degree of lenity and liberality, while we shall have succeeded in acquiring, on behalf of the Crown, the undisputed possession, at the end of seven years, of a very valuable Estate, from which no profit or income whatever has hitherto been derived by the Crown.

“Having given Your Lordships this detailed Statement of the arrangements we have made for the disposal of this large Estate, we beg leave to recommend that we may be authorised, by Your Lordships’ warrant, to grant Leases to such of the before-mentioned parties as may choose to call for them and their executors, administrators and assigns, of the respective premises held by them for a term of seven years to be computed from Christmas 1828, on payment of the different sums before stated, amounting in all



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[Lent by Mr. J. E. Savery.

SITE OF ROBERTSON STREET, HASTINGS, in 1846.
THE LIME KILNS, CLAREMONT.

From a Water Colour, by Charles Turner, R.A.

The open space is the "America Ground," Cambridge Road on the right, with the road round the White Rock and Coastguard Station on St. Michael's Rock.



Photo]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

CARLISLE PARADE, ROBERTSON TERRACE AND WHITE ROCK—1920
(The former site of the "America Ground," now "Crown Land.")

to £1,408, the same to be paid free and clear from all taxes and charges whatever, in addition to which we have stipulated, that if Leases shall be called for by any of the parties (which hitherto has been done by only three of them, Mr. Thomas James Breeds, Mr. Thomas Breeds, and Mr. Mark Boykett Breeds), that the whole expense attending the preparing and passing of them shall be borne by the parties, without any deduction being made from the respective rents agreed to be paid by them on account thereof.

“ We beg leave further to submit, as only three of the parties (Messrs. Breeds), have desired to have Leases granted of the premises held by them, and as it is doubtful whether the other parties will not be satisfied with holding under the agreements for Leases before referred to, that the warrant, though applying to the whole of the property should be charged with merely the fees for the three Leases agreed for, it being understood that if any other Leases shall be called for, the parties shall pay the same fees as if special warrants were issued for each of their Leases.

“ We are, my Lords,

“ Your Lordships’ most obedient servants,

“ LOWTHER.

“ W. D. ADAMS.

“ The Right Hon. the Lords Commissioners of

“ His Majesty’s Treasury.”

The Appendix to the above Report includes a complete schedule of the occupiers and non-resident owners, numbering 97, with their full names, occupations and annual rent, by far the largest being Thomas James Breeds, Merchant, with Rope Walk (shewn in the view), Warehouses and Offices, besides a number of small houses, No. 1 on Plan, for which the rent fixed by Government was £300 per annum. Thomas Breeds, Merchant, No. 2, £100 per annum. Mark Boykett Breeds, Merchant, Lime Kiln, Sawing House and Pit, Coal Warehouse, and other buildings, £50 per annum. Edward Picknell, Carpenter (the late Councillor “ Ned ” Picknell), House and Yard, £14. Other names familiar at the present day being John Eaton, Carpenter ; Benj. Standen, Carpenter ; Thomas Thwaites, Rope and Tallow Warehouse ; Samuel Chester, Baker ; John Gallop, Shipwright ; James Lansdell, of Battle, Builder ; Daniel Thomas, Publican ; William Wellerd, Butcher ; George Strickland, Corn Factor ; Thomas Page, Rope Maker ; John Prior, Brewer ; W. H. Honiss, Cabinet Maker ; James Brazier, Shoemaker ; William Breach, John Breach and Mark Breach, Fishermen ; and others. The annual amount of rent fixed by the Government amounted to £1,408.

On the termination of the seven years leases granted to the tenants, these Derelict Lands were cleared. The Corporation of Hastings, whose jurisdiction did not then extend westward beyond the spot where the yachts are, just East of the Queen’s Hotel,

settled their boundary, and the neighbouring high ground was claimed by Lord Cornwallis as shewing the boundary to his property, and the intervening land between the two boundaries was thereupon appropriated by the Government, and thus it happens that to-day the Crown owns property on the Hastings Sea Front.

The reclaimed land was subsequently taken over on a building agreement by Mr. Patrick Francis Robertson, at that time a wealthy merchant in London, who afterwards became Member of Parliament for Hastings, whose portrait is here given. Mr. Robertson took the



[From the Author's Collection.]

PATRICK F. ROBERTSON, ESQ., M.P. for Hastings,
Who gave the name to Robertson Street and Robertson
Terrace, Hastings.

Mr. Patrick Francis Robertson, who will be remembered by many of the older inhabitants, was a man of fine presence. He first contested Hastings, as a Conservative in August, 1847, but was unsuccessful. In July, 1852, he was returned M.P. for Hastings at the top of the poll, with Mr. Musgrave Brisco. In March, 1857, with Mr. Frederick North, he was returned without a contest. Again defeated in April, 1859. Again returned in 1864, and 1865. In

1874, the first election under the ballot, he was again defeated, when the late first Earl Brassey (then Mr. T. Brassey), and Sir U. J. K. Shuttleworth (now Lord Shuttleworth) were returned, and Mr. Robertson retired from Hastings. He resided at Halton House, Old London Road, Hastings. Halton House and the beautiful grounds were sold by auction, and the purchaser, a London gentleman, resold the estate for building purposes and cut down the fine timber which surrounded Halton House. The ground is now partly covered by cottages and the remainder undeveloped land.

land on a 99 years lease from 1849, at a ground rent of £500 per annum. It is noteworthy that Lord Carlisle, after whom Carlisle Parade is named, was then Chief Commissioner of Woods and Forests.

The stone lion and unicorn to be seen opposite Robertson Terrace were once in front of Buckingham Palace. It appears they were removed from Buckingham Palace on account of certain objections, other animals being substituted and the originals brought to Hastings.



The panorama of Hastings and St. Leonards should be followed from right to left, beginning at the East Cliff to West Marina. It was published by Mr. Thomas Ross, 6, Castle Street, Hastings, about 1837. Drawn by C. Burton, Strand, London, and will be interesting as shewing the developments of Hastings and St. Leonards during the early part of the 19th century, with parts not then built upon (see pages 222-3).



By J. Gendall

[Lent by Mr. A. G. Fidler.

HASTINGS FROM THE PRIORY FARM, LOOKING EAST.
Dated 1822.

Probably the coach is leaving Hastings for Brighton. The Meadows in the foreground are the Priory Meadows, and part of the present Cricket Ground, Havelock Road, etc., and the street represents York Buildings, with East side of Wellington Square.

Many present inhabitants will remember Rock Fair (see page 224). It is mentioned in the "Collier Letters," where Miss Sarah Collier writes from school to her mother: "Dear Mama.—I received your agreeable letter yesterday, and think Harriot intends to make long holidays and is willing to stay with you as long as she can. Rock Fare is a very good excuse." This letter is dated 10th July, 1753. Mr. Sayer, the Editor adds a footnote that Rock Fair was held on the Priory Ground. Here, on the 26th and 27th of July, was held a pleasure and business fair. It was attended by rich and poor, who extracted much fun out of the proceedings; the circus and booths will be seen. The temporary erection is the Hustings, and no doubt at the time the picture was taken the August election of 1847 was close at hand. The contending parties occupied the end

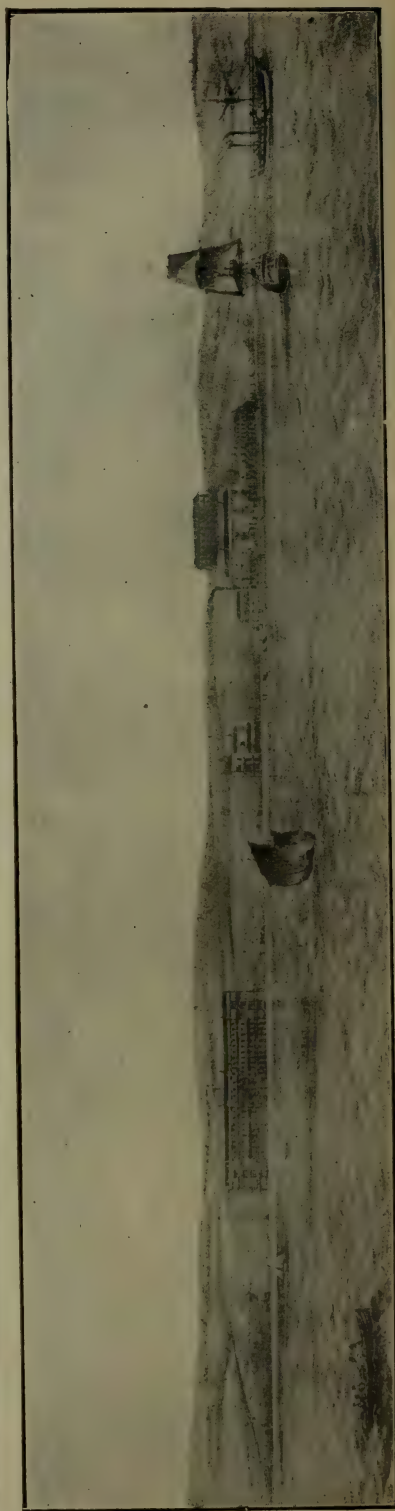
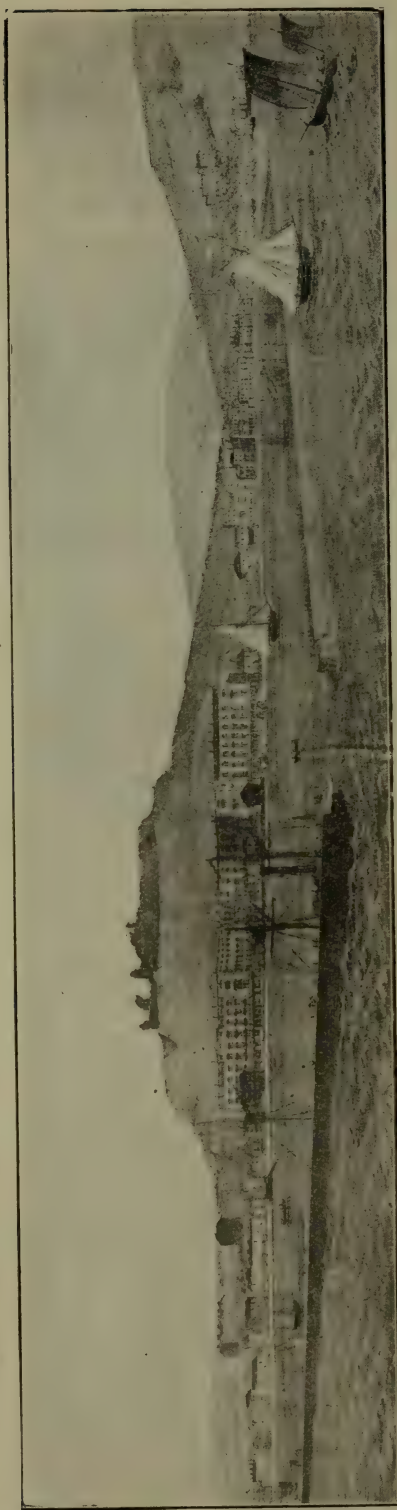
Old Town.

Barry's Library.

Pelham Crescent.

Proposed Harbour.

Wellington Square.

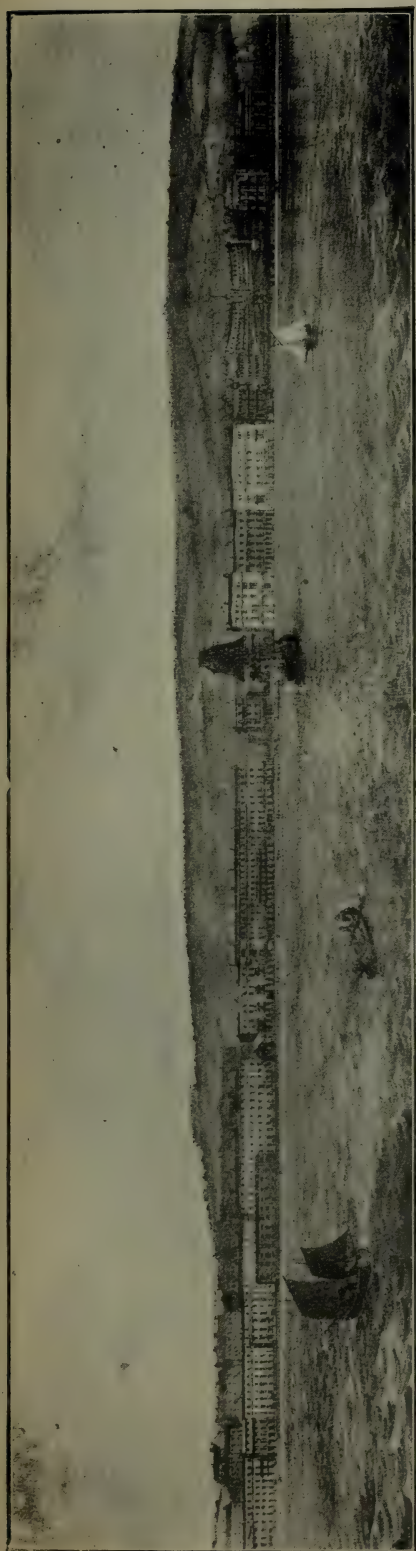


Verulam Buildings.

Site of Pier.

White Rock Brewery.

Priory Meadows.



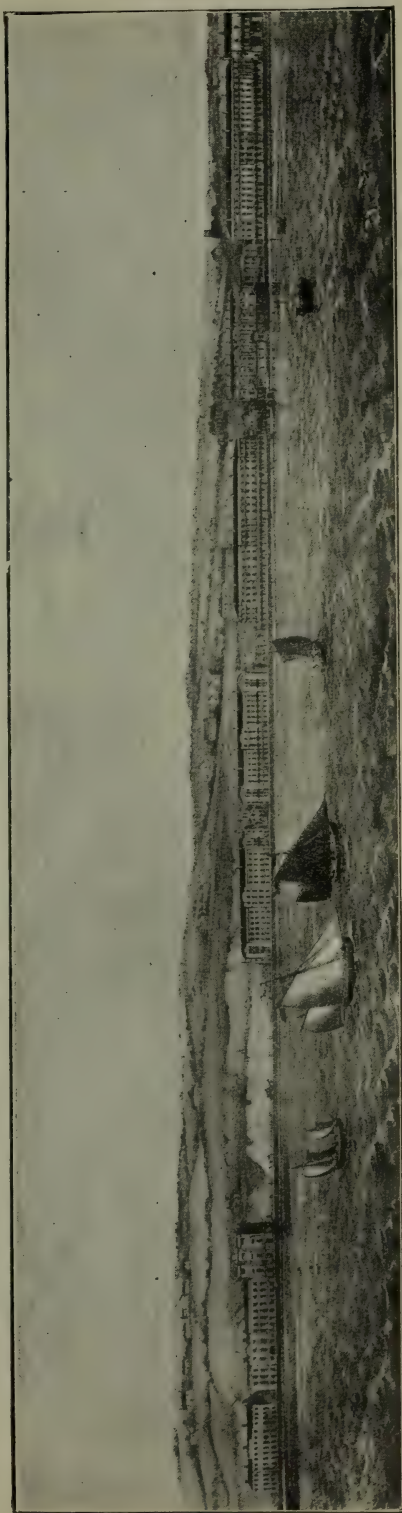
Intended New Square.

Grand Parade.

S. Saxon Hotel.

East Gate.

Colonnade.

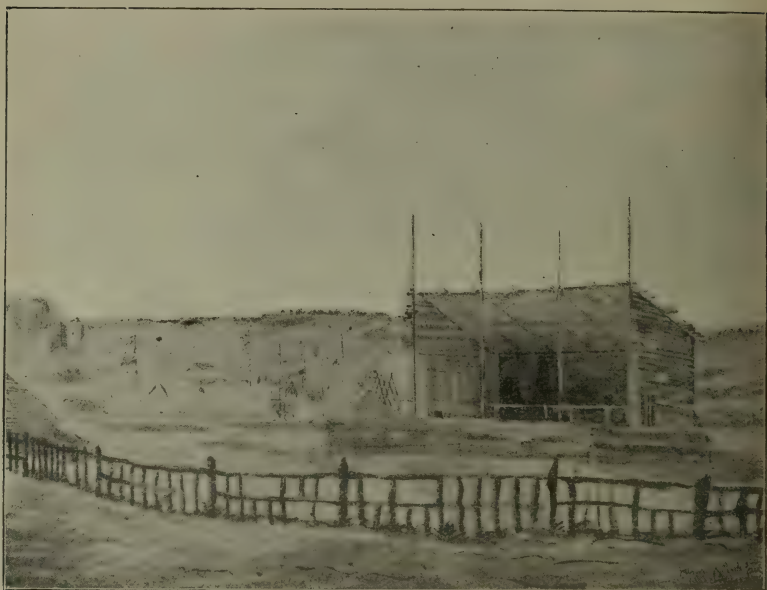


West Marina.

St. Leonards Church.

Victoria Hotel.

Colonnade.



[Lent by Mr. W. E. Brown]

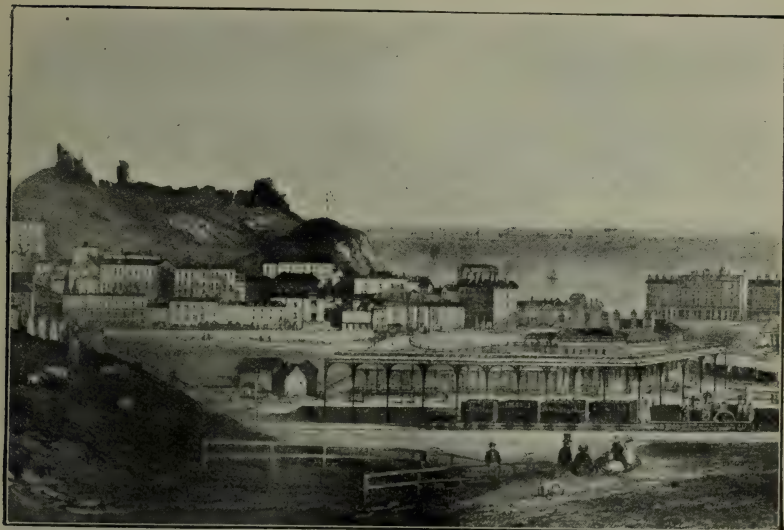
ROCK FAIR, ON THE PRIORY MEADOWS, NEAR
WHITE ROCK, 1847.



[Lent by Mr. Chas. Dawson, F.S.A.]

HASTINGS FROM BOHEMIA

(Probable date, 1849-50.—Hastings Railway Station was opened 1851.)



By C. Graf.]

[From the Author's Collection.]

HASTINGS FROM THE RAILWAY STATION—1851.

Shewing site of Havelock Road.



Photo.]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.]

HASTINGS RAILWAY STATION—1920.

Taken from Railway Bridge, Linton Road.

divisions and the candidates and officials the centre. After Rock Fair ceased to be held here the "Town Fair," was held at the Fishmarket, and the elections took place on the Cricket Ground, the last occasion in 1869, when Sir U. J. K. Shuttleworth fought a bye-election with Mr. P. F. Robertson, the former being successful. After this the Ballot Act came into force, when the next election in February, 1874, took place, Mr. Thomas (first Earl) Brassey and Sir U. J. K. Shuttleworth, Liberals, won the seats against Mr. P. F. Robertson and Mr. R. Nicholson, Conservatives. Then Polling Stations came into vogue.

The interesting view on page 224, drawn on stone, and published by W. Spreat, Exeter, is probably taken from "Step Meadow, where Holmesdale and Cornwallis Gardens are now. Robertson Street was commenced, see the houses on the extreme right, next York Buildings and Wellington Place, Meadow Cottages, then the Castle Stables, Meadow Road, Spring Terrace; behind is Castle Down



[Lent by Mr. Chas. Dawson, F.S.A.]

THE OLD ROPE WALK—1800, now Robertson Street.

From a Water Colour.

Terrace, Castle Down House, The Castle ruins, and the Mills on the West Hill. In the foreground are the Priory Meadows and Brook Meadows, and building operations are seen at the railway station, opened in 1851. The engine is probably engaged in carrying beach and other materials. It has already been said that the site of the railway station was a flat, reedy bog, and that Havelock Road and the Robertson Street end of Cambridge Road were made roads and raised from the sea level with the earth from the railway tunnels.

The Watch House on next page is shown in Powell's Plan of Hastings, on page 116, and is referred to in John Banks' Smugglers and



[From the Author's Collection.]

THE SQUARE BUILDING IN THE FOREGROUND IS THE WESTERN
WATCH HOUSE AND SEARCHER'S OFFICE.
Near the site near the Queen's Hotel—1830.



[Lent by Mr. F. G. Langham.]

“HOUSE ON THE WHITE ROCK.”

From a coloured drawing by C. Catton, engraved by Sutherland.
Believed to have been sketched about 1800, and published later.

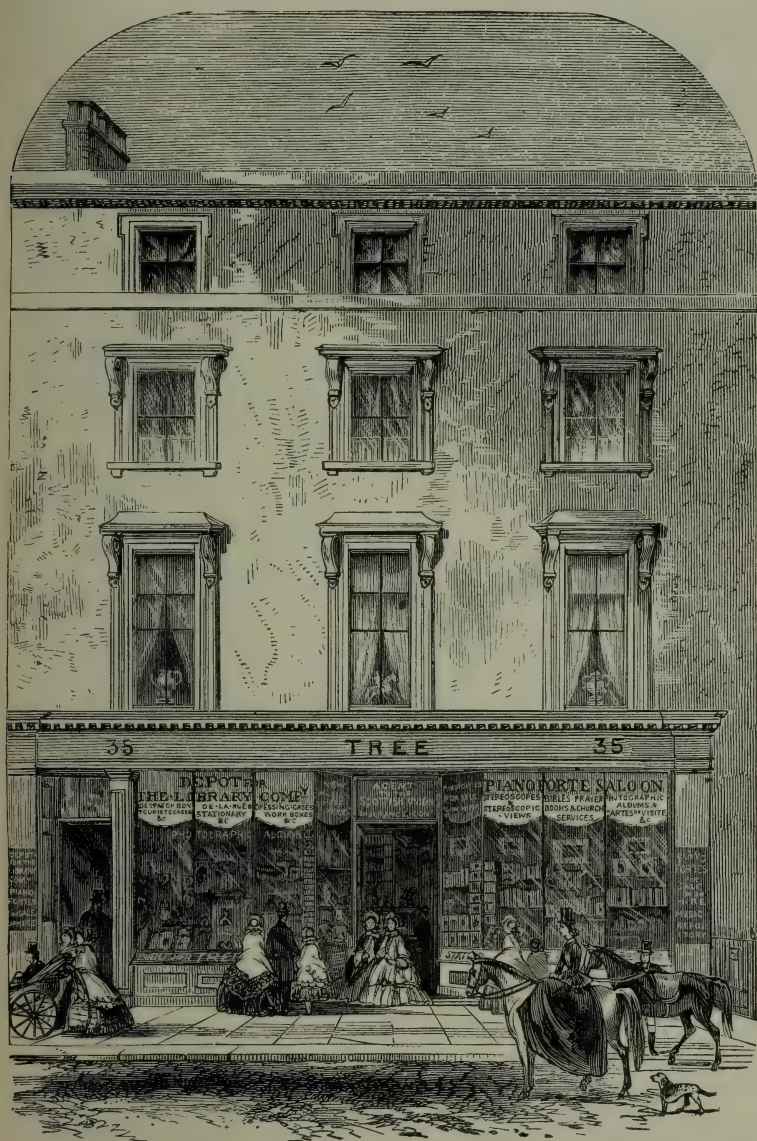
Smuggling. It is the round tower seen in the view with windows, and was used by the Blockade Men when watching for smugglers. It overlooked the "America Ground," and was removed for building operations about 1835. This Watch House was the property of the Corporation, and was let to the Commissioners of Customs. The Eastern Watch House and Searcher's Office was on the stade, near the present harbour.

The first Rope Walk was along the beach where Carlisle Parade is, and afterwards further inland where Robertson Street is. It was in the hands of Messrs. Breeds, (see plan of Derelict Lands).

The late Mr. John Banks, in his "Smugglers and Smuggling," describes this in his recollections of old Hastings, as "One house near the top of White Rock." It is a rare view, and the house is not found in any of the many later ones of White Rock. This spot was sketched by at least a dozen delineators before the Rock was removed in 1834-5, for the building of Stratford Place, now called White Rock (see page 227).

In Diplock's Handbook for Hastings and St. Leonards, published 1846, issued from his Royal Marine Library, formerly Barry's, at the West end of George Street, there appears 135 tradesmen's advertisements, but Robertson Street is not mentioned. Here are some whose names are familiar to old inhabitants: Rock and Son, Coach Builders, 6, Stratford Place (now Hedley Williams, Draper, White Rock); Thomas Mann, Picture Frame Maker, 34, High Street (late of Claremont); C. J. Womersley, Cabinet Maker and Auctioneer, York House, now York Buildings; John Eaton, Auctioneer, 39, High Street; Ann Golding, Fruiterer, 10, George Street; Wellerd and Son, Butchers, 63, George Street; H. and R. Dunk, Grocers, 12, Castle Street; Will Ginner, Coal and Porter Merchant and Ship Agent, High Street; J. and G. Amooore, Grocers, 57, High Street; Alfred Amooore, Grocer, Castle Street; Deudney and Hurst, Brewers, White Rock Brewery; Thomas Breeds and Co., Coal Merchants, Brewers, and Shippers, 61, High Street; J. and C. Burfield, Brewers, 1, George Street; W. Amooore, Junior, Eagle Brewery, Courthouse Street; T. Brown, Wine Merchant, 18, Pelham Arcade; C. F. Mott, Wine Merchant, 10, Breeds Place (now Mastin Bros., Drapers); John Reeves, Bootmaker, 27, George Street; J. and T. H. Spencer, Furnishers, 58, High Street; C. H. Gausden, Tailor, 48, Marina; Duke and Son, Breeches Makers, 74 and 75, High Street; Shirley, Hairdresser, 40, George Street; R. Styles, Linen Draper, 1, Wellington Place (now Metcalf and Kirkpatrick); H. C. Lea, Chemist, 66, High Street; Charles Amooore, Chemist, Castle Street; W. Pollard, Bookbinder, 20, High Street; Hill, Royal Pelham Library, Pelham Place; Cooper's (formerly Powell's) Royal Marine Library; J. and F. Hoad, Post Master, Swan Mews, High Street; W. Carswell, Swan Hotel; W. Chamberlain, Royal Victoria and St. Leonards Hotel; W. L. Yates, Royal Oak Hotel; C. P. Hutchings, Marine Hotel (now part of Cinema de Luxe);

G. Lindridge, Professor of Music, 7, Wellington Square ; John Banks, Private Teacher, Rock House, Hill Street, and others.



[Lent by Miss Clark.]

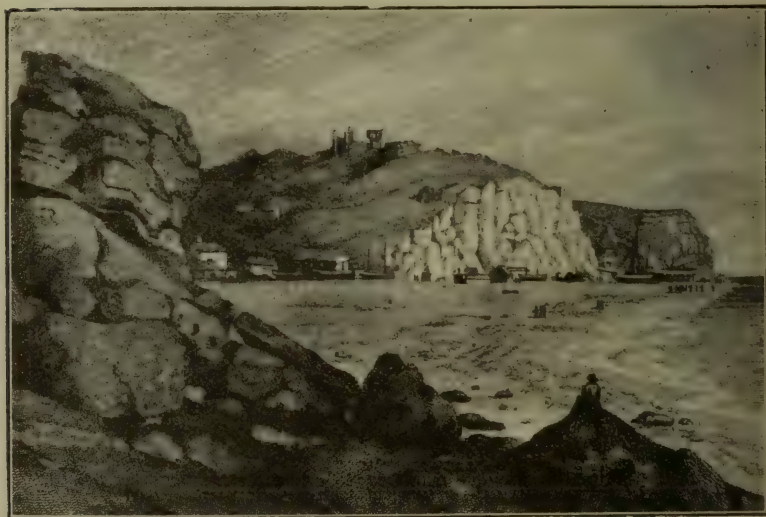
ONE OF THE EARLY SHOPS.
 BEN. TREE'S LIBRARY, 35, ROBERTSON STREET.
 From a block found in Ransom's Printing Office.



[Lent by Mr. Thos. Parkin.]

HASTINGS FROM THE WHITE ROCK, 1807.

By H.H. This artist in water colour, sketched quite a large number of views of the town. The House shewn in Mr. Langham's view, page 227, probably stood on this ledge of the rock.

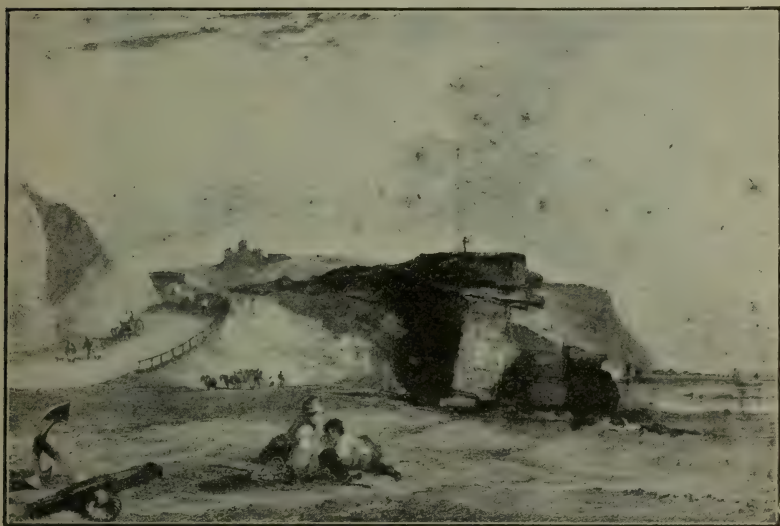


[Lent by Mr. J. Foster.]

THE WHITE ROCK AND CASTLE CLIFFS.

From "Stockdale's Beauties of England and Wales"—1814

Thomas Ross, in his first Guide to Hastings, 1835, from 6, Castle Street, says of this part: “The Town of St. Mary’s” is now rapidly springing up between the “towns of Hastings and St. Leonards”; already some well-built houses, such as Verulam-buildings, Seymour Place, Adelaide Place, etc., have been erected. The grounds are also laid out for a square (Warrior Square). The South Saxon Hotel is the only one at present in the place; and the grand promenade, which joins that of St. Leonards, forming the “finest parade in the Kingdom.” Brett says:—“Mr. Troup, who built Warrior Square, proposed that the new town between the Archway, St. Leonards (Mr. Burton’s boundary) and the Seaside Hotel (now the Palace) should be called ‘St. Marys.’”



[Lent by Mr. J. Foster.]

THE WHITE ROCK, FROM THE WEST SIDE.
Shewing the new Road round Cuckoo Hill. About 1817.



Having shewn the reader the locality as it appeared prior to the development of the town West of the Memorial, a series of views of the present day follows.



Photo.]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

GENERAL VIEW OF CLAREMONT, FROM ROBERTSON STREET, 1920.

Under the Grosvenor Hotel, seen in this picture, is where Mr. Thomas Ross opened his shop on his removal from 6, Castle Street, and from where the several later editions of his guide were published; and at the opposite corner (now Bateman's, optician), was Diplock's Library and Reading Room, 38, Robertson Street, from where that excellently-written "Handbook for Hastings and St. Leonards," by Miss Mary Matilda Howard, was issued, and passed through several editions. Mr. William Diplock, who married a Miss Langham, purchased Barry's Library at the West-end of George Street, shewn in an earlier view, called the Royal Marine Library, and like many others, migrated further westward when Robertson Street was developing. The Author has seen Robertson Street absolutely re-peopled.

The first stone of the Church of the Holy Trinity was laid in 1857, and opened on September 29th, 1858, but the chancel was not completed until 1862. It was erected by subscription. There remained a large debt on the building, which, having been finally paid off, the Church was consecrated on April 13th, 1882. The design was by Mr. Teulon, and the builder, the late Mr. John Howell. The late Dr. T. F. Crosse was the first Incumbent, and the finely-carved wooden screen was erected as a memorial to this beloved and scholarly man, who had laboured here for 31 years. The present Vicar is Canon Thomas W. Cook, M.A.



Photo.]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

CLAREMONT OF TO-DAY.

Shewing the Brassey Institute, the Museum and Public Library, the "Observer" Office, and part of Holy Trinity Church.

The Brassey Institute was erected through the munificence of first Earl Brassey in 1879 when M.P. for Hastings. The building now contains the Museum, Public Library, and School of Art. It was opened in 1881, and later Earl Brassey presented the building to the town and the several institutions are now administered



Photo.]

F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH AND ROBERTSON STREET.



Photo.]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.]

GENERAL VIEW OF MODERN HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS,
SHEWING BOTH PIERS.

The Pavilion on Hastings Pier, shewn in this view, was destroyed by fire on Sunday, 15th of July, 1917, and the remains are still there (1920).

by the Corporation, managed by a committee. The Museum was opened in 1892, and has of late years been greatly augmented and improved. The late Mr. W. V. Crake, M.A., was the Hon. Secretary for many years and took the deepest interest in its welfare, and on whose death Mr. Anthony Belt filled his place. Mr. W. Ruskin-Butterfield is the Curator and Librarian of the Public Library, and Mr. Cole is Art Master of the School of Art. The late Mr. W. L. Vernon was the Architect, who embellished the building in mosaics depicting scenes from the Bayeux Tapestry, by Salvati. Next to the Museum is the Office of the Hastings and St. Leonards "Observer" and the Printing Works of F. J. Parsons, Ltd., publishers of "Hastings of Bygone Days—and the Present."



Photo]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

WHITE ROCK PARADE, AND HOSPITAL, 1920.

The site of the Hospital is where the original Infirmary stood. The latter was opened in 1841, a view of which recently appeared in a history of the building issued by the Management. The present Hospital, opened in October, 1887, will shortly be removed, and a new and up-to-date Institution erected opposite the Sports Ground, Cambridge Road, as a Memorial to the late King Edward VII. The tram lines will be noted in the view.

The whole scheme of development by the Corporation is now being carried out. The fine approach roads from the parade are complete, Bowling Greens, Tennis Courts, Promenade Lawns, &c., are made, and the Gardens are being laid out. The Hospital at White Rock will disappear, and in its place a grand Music Pavilion will be erected. The new and up-to-date Hospital is in course of erection on part of the Brisco land with the approach in Cambridge Road. The Pier extension with the Band Stand has proved extremely popular and is a great acquisition to the town as a health and pleasure resort and a source of considerable income from "Chair-money."



Photo]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

THE LATE VISCOUNTESS JOCELYN'S HOUSE.

Which was behind the Hospital, White Rock Place, and was demolished when the new improvement scheme was commenced





Photo]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

THE BATHS PROMENADE, WHITE ROCK, 1920.



[From the Author's Collection.

DESTRUCTIVE STORM AT HASTINGS PIER AND THE BATHS PROMENADE DURING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BATHS, NOVEMBER 14TH, 1875.

From a Snap Shot taken at the time.

This storm caused extensive damage to property on the Sea Front. The views shews the Baths during construction. The Pay Houses of the Pier were "toppled over," and otherwise much damage done at the Pavilion end.

ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA.

The beautiful town founded to the west of Old Hastings by Mr. Burton, the father of the celebrated architect, Mr. Decimus Burton, in 1828, next claims attention. It was in 1815, James Burton, with his son Decimus, visited Hastings, and saw the beauty of the valley to the west of the town, with its wooded glens and cliffs, shaded from the north winds. At this time destitute of inhabitants, it was mere common land, on each side of the valley, with wild cliffs presenting their fronts like buttresses to the sea. The part was then considered an *excursion* from Hastings, shut out from the view by the promontory of White Rock, and visitors were wont to stroll along the rough road towards Bulverhythe and Bexhill, stopping at the New England Tavern at Bopeep for refreshments, or at a quaint-looking hut on the beach, called the Noah's Ark, formed out of the hull of a ship. From the White Rock to the Gensing Valley (now represented by Warrior Square and Woodland Vale to the Tower Road), passing over "sand dunes," backed by the cliffs, on the top of which runs the present St. Margaret's Road and the Brisco Land, now so prominently before the public eye, on to the vale of St. Leonards, out of which was created the lovely St. Leonards Gardens, behind the Royal Victoria Hotel, and the Archery Grounds at Quarry Hill on to West Marina or Bopeep. Taking a comprehensive view of St. Leonards from the sea, what a panorama of beauty is presented to the eye. Out of this visit by the founder, assisted by the artistic mind of the son, who became famous as the designer of the Arch on Constitution Hill, Hyde Park, was reared the St. Leonards, now so much admired by visitors and residents. The parish of St. Leonard and its "Free Chapel" are frequently mentioned in old records. "In the Parish of St. Margaret, which was existing prior to the 22nd Edward I. (1290), when Petronilla de Cham augmented it by a grant, to the brethren and sisters, of 5 acres. The 5 acres abutted to land then of Wm. Waldren, bailiff, and the other land of the brethren and sisters on the E., to land of Gilbert of Gensing on the West, to other land of her own on the South, and other land of the brethren and sisters on the North. Of this hospital the bailiff was visitor." *Suss. Arch. Coll. V., 14.* A view of the ruins of this Chapel as it stood in 1820 is here given. The Parish of St. Leonard was partly within the county jurisdiction, and partly within the Borough of Hastings. The county portion included Filsham Farm, and parts of the farms of Yeilding, Gensing, and the Grove. The site of St. Leonards formerly belonged to a family of the name of Lewis, from whom it came to the Eversfield family, and was purchased of them by the late Mr. Burton, and on the first of March, 1828, the first stone of the Victoria Hotel was laid being also the first stone of St. Leonards-on-Sea. Mr. A. H. Burton, St. Leonards Lodge, The Uplands, Maze Hill, St. Leonards, has passed away, but the family still reside here.

The present postal boundary of St. Leonards commences at Verulam Place (formerly Verulam Buildings).



[From the Author's Collection.]

VERULAM BUILDINGS, 1834, OPPOSITE HASTINGS PIER.
(Before White Rock was commenced.)



G. Rowe.]

[From the Author's Collection.]

EAST LODGE OR ST. LEONARDS, 1829.
"THE OLD ARCHWAY"—LOOKING EAST.

This Archway marked the Eastern boundary of St. Leonards. A heated controversy was aroused as to the demolition of this land mark erected by Mr. Burton as the dividing line between his town of St. Leonards and the western limits of what was to be the fashionable town of Hastings. Public opinion for and against its removal was so strong that when the decision was arrived at it was deemed advisable to arrange for a speedy demolition, and under the direction of the Borough Engineer this was accomplished in one night between sunset and sunrise, on January 22nd, 1895. A tablet on the parade marks its position, just west of London Road, St. Leonards. A stone denoting the boundary of St. Leonards may be seen on the parade with the inscription.

The view shows the rough road from Hastings before Grand Parade, Warrior Square, Eversfield Place, or White Rock were built.



Photo]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

WARRIOR SQUARE AND GARDENS, ST. LEONARDS.

WITH QUEEN VICTORIA STATUE, 1920.

At the opening of the beautiful Gensing Valley, already mentioned. The statue was unveiled on 31st December, 1902.

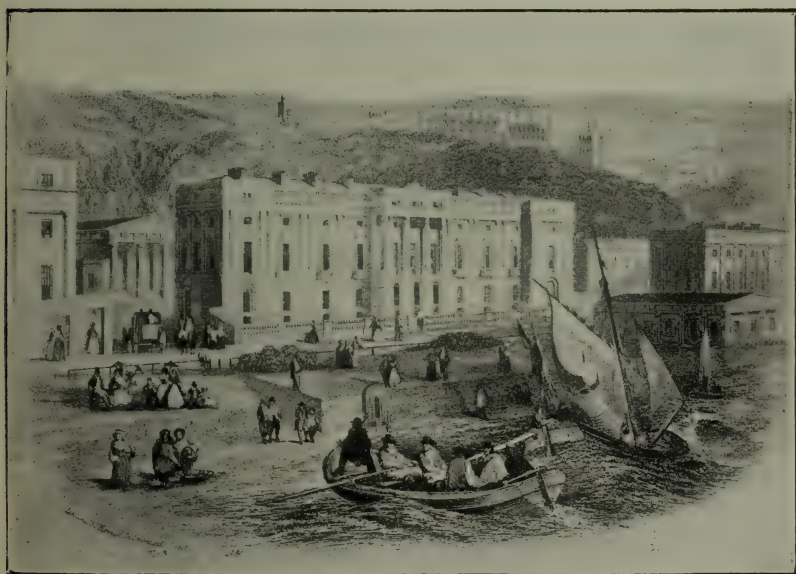


Photo]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

VIEW OF GRAND PARADE, ST. LEONARDS, LOOKING EAST, WITH
HASTINGS IN THE DISTANCE—1920.

The tablet marking the site of the Old Archway is behind the electric light standard.



[Lent by Mr. Thos. Parkin.

“CHAMBERLIN'S ROYAL VICTORIA HOTEL, ST. LEONARDS, HASTINGS.
Published by J. & E. Harwood. Dated March 22nd, 1842



Photo]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

ROYAL VICTORIA HOTEL, ST. LEONARDS, 1920.

This Hotel was practically re-built a few years since. It is owned by the Royal Victoria Hotel Company, Ltd.



By C. Hullmandel.]

[Lent by Dr. G. Vickerman Hewland

ST. LEONARDS FROM THE SEA, 1835.

Readers acquainted with St. Leonards will recognise in this view, Southall's Royal Library and Baths opposite the Royal Victoria Hotel, the Colonnade, the Assembly Rooms, the entrance to the Subscription Gardens, West Ascent, Gloucester Lodge (the residence of the Princess Sophia Matilda, 1831), The Clock House, Maze Hill, North Lodge, St. Leonards Colonnade, Victoria House (the residence of the Duchess of Kent and Princess Victoria 1834-5, now No. 57, Marina), and the Archery Grounds, etc. Published by C. H. Southall Royal Library, St. Leonards.



By C. Hullmandel]

[Lent by Mr. W. Ruskin Butterfield.]

VILLA COTTAGE AND LODGE, ST. LEONARDS, 1830.

With site of St. Leonards Gardens. Then called the
Vale of St. Leonards.



By J. Foalson.]

[Lent by Mr. Thos. Parkin]

WEST ASCENT, EDLIN'S ROYAL HOTEL, ASSEMBLY ROOMS, AND ST. LEONARDS CHURCH, 1830.

(Published by C. H. Southall, Royal Library, St. Leonards.)



Titler, delt.

[Lent by Dr. G. Vickerman-Hewland..]

“VIEW IN THE GROUNDS AT ST. LEONARDS.”

Another view of Gloucester Lodge.

(Published by G. Wooll, 43, High Street, Hastings, 1830.)



Photo]

[F. J. Parsons Ltd.

VIEW IN ST. LEONARDS GARDENS, 1920.



By C. G. White.]]

[Lent by Dr. G. Vickerman-Hewland.

“THE CLOCK HOUSE, ROYAL GLOUCESTER LODGE, AND MAZE HILL,
ST. LEONARDS.”—1830.

With site of Subscription Gardens.

(Published by G. Wooll, Printseller, 43, High Street, Hastings.)

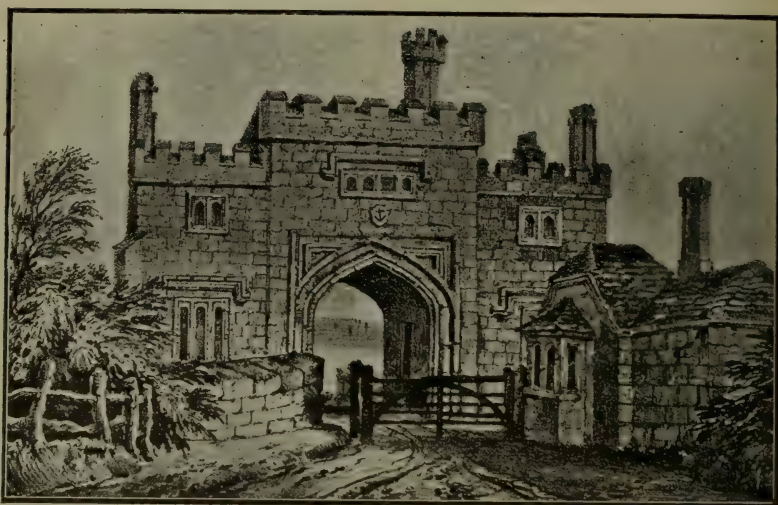


Photo]

F. J. Parsons, Ltd

NORTH LODGE, UPPER MAZE HILL, 1920.

(This is now occupied by Sir H. Rider Haggard), thus adding one more to the famous men of letters and artists who have honoured the Borough by their presence).



By G. Rowe.]

Lent by Mr. A. G. Fidler

NORTH LODGE AND PAY GATE, MAZE HILL, ST. LEONARDS—
About 1829.

(This represents the North Boundary of the Burton Estate.)
Published by G. Wooll, High Street, Hastings.



Lent by Mr. Chas. Dawson, F.S.A.

A VERY RARE VIEW FROM A WATER COLOUR, 1800, OF THE
“CONQUEROR’S STONE.”

In its original position at the “Old Woman’s Tap,” now the site of the Royal Victoria Hotel. The figures are standing on the stone. It is now on the Parade opposite St. Leonards Pier. Tradition has it that the Conqueror rested on this stone on his march to Hastings.

Rapid strides were made in the development of St. Leonards from the opening of the Royal Victoria Hotel in 1829. This was followed by St. Leonards Church in 1831, the foundation stone being laid by her Royal Highness the Princess Sophia of Gloucester, who had taken up her residence at Gloucester Lodge. St. Leonards was originally designed as a distinct town and had a distinct governing body called the St. Leonards Commissioners, quite independent of the old Corporation of Hastings. Royalty favoured it very early in its history, The Duchess of Kent and Princess Victoria were at Victoria Lodge, 57, Marina, wintering there in 1834-5. Queen Adelaide spent the winter of 1837 at Adelaide House, 23, Grand Parade. The Victoria Hotel has been a favoured home for Royal



Photo]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

BOPEEP OF THE PRESENT DAY.
GROSVENOR GARDENS AND WEST MARINA, ST. LEONARDS.
1920.

visitors, including Louis Philippe, Queen Amelie, the Duchess of Orleans and her children, the Prince and Princess de Joinville. The Brighton coach started from the Victoria 1st June, 1830, called the Dispatch. There was a St. Leonards Spa on the West Hill* opened by Mr. E. Grosslob, proprietor, and late Manager of the Streatham Spa. The Prince and Princess of Wales and their infant son stayed at the Royal Victoria Hotel in 1864. The frequent visits of royal personages attracted many of the richer classes to St. Leonards, and building operations at Marina were pushed forward in order to provide accommodation, and a great number of the workmen employed

* No. 2, West Hill marks the site of this Spa.

found lodgings on the "America Ground" in Holy Trinity Parish. Grand Parade was commenced in 1831, and the cliffs near White Rock were levelled in 1834-5, and during these operations the workmen came upon the remains of a Church believed to be St. Michael. Eversfield Place, Robertson Street, and Carlisle Parade were not commenced until 1850, but the completion of the sea wall and promenade gave another impetus to building on the front line. Warrior Square (sometimes called Belgravia) completed in 1864, and soon after Hastings and St. Leonards joined hands. The other Churches of St. Leonards were built as the Western town pro-

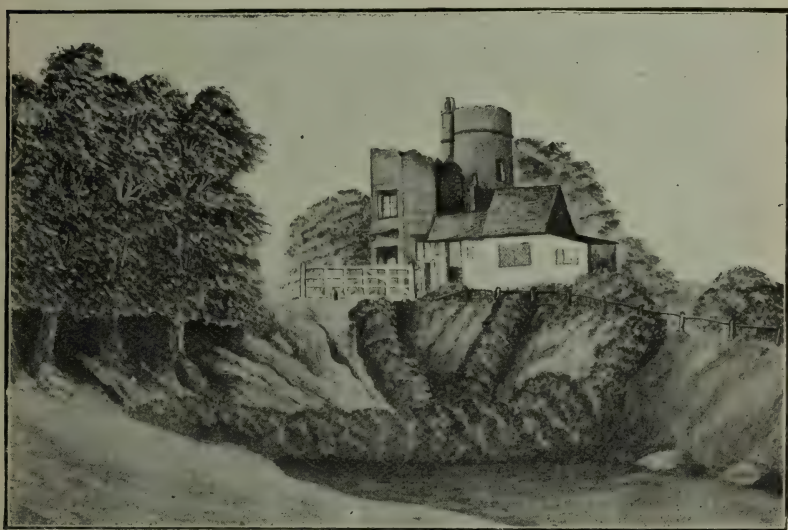


[Lent by Mr. E. A. Notcutt.]

PORTRAIT OF SHAW, THE FIRST POSTMAN OF ST. LEONARDS.
(Sketched from Life by Miss Wood, St. Leonards.—1842.)

gressed; All Souls' Roman Catholic, 1834; St. Mary Magdalen, 1852; Christ Church, 1859 (a small one at first); St. John's (temporary Church), 1865; afterward a brick Church, 1867; St. Paul's, 1868. Perhaps the oldest family who settled at St. Leonards was that of the late Alderman Robert Deudney, whose father owned the land where the Croft is erected, early in the 18th century. His father was born at Gensing House in 1760. This house stood at the

junction of Charles Road and Dane Road. He also owned land at Spittalsman's Down (now Bohemia), Bexhill, Pevensey, and Hurstmonceaux. He had a brother Arthur Deudney, who was the first proprietor of the Marine Hotel, Pelham Place, and a partner in Deudney and Hurst's Brewery, White Rock. Alderman Robert Deudney was also Agent for the Eversfield Estates, which duties he discharged till 1863. It is said of him that he took a great interest in St. Mary Magdalen Church, and in selecting a site, records of the Diocese of Chichester were searched, when it was discovered that a Church called St. Margaret's once stood in the neighbourhood, and the present site was decided upon. Brett states that Alderman Deudney, while overlooking the levelling of the Cliff behind Eversfield Place, discovered some remains of the former Church of St. Margaret, and this fact has been copied into many of the later guide books. I have seen an old print of the ruins above-mentioned, called "Deudney's Chapel."



[Lent by Mr. J. Parsons.]

THE TOWER HOUSE AND PAY GATE.

On site of Tower Hotel, London Road, St. Leonards

From an Oil Painting by Mr. J. R. Mitchell.

This house stood at the top of the beautiful Gensing Valley, opposite Tower Road Schools, and gave the name to the present Tower Hotel, and Tower Road West. The new London Road from Gingerbread Green to Hawkhurst, was made through the instrumentality of the late Alderman Stephen Putland, Mayor, in 1865.

London Road is now the principal business thoroughfare of St. Leonards, and the service of electric trams run through it from the sea to St. Matthew's Church, Silverhill. Christ Church and the Congregational Church with their tall spires are prominent objects. Christ Church, now a very fine edifice, has replaced a small one erected by the Dowager Lady St. John, mother of the late Rev.



Photo]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

LONDON ROAD AND CHRIST CHURCH, ST. LEONARDS.

C. L. Vaughan, as a Chapel-of-ease to St. Mary Magdalen. The present Church owes its magnificence to its former incumbent, Rev. C. L. Vaughan, in whose time the services assumed a Ritualistic character. It is one of the largest in the Borough, and was built at a cost approaching £22,000.



[Lent by Museum Committee.]

RUINS OF CHAPEL SUPPOSED TO HAVE BELONGED TO THE ANCIENT
HOSPITAL OF ST. MARY MAGDALEN.

Founded by Patronilla de Cham, 1292.

Called the Chapel Barn, From a Water Colour by Miss M. Johnson,
1820.



By H.H.]

[Lent by Mr. Thos. Parkin.]

CHAPEL FARM, BOHEMIA, WITH DISTANT VIEW OF HASTINGS CASTLE,
1807.

The building formed part of the Chapel Farmhouse mentioned
in connection with the preceding view.

THE CHAPEL BARN.

This stood on Chapel Farm in a field opposite the entrance gate of Bohemia House, supposed to be the site of the ancient Hospital (or Almshouses) of St. Mary Magdalen. The hospital was disused as early as 1604, when it was agreed to let the house, farm and lands to one James Hunt. It formed part of the Magdalen Charity lands, which have so increased in value through the demand for building sites that the Charity has become a rich one, and part of the income was contributed to the building of the public Grammar School on the West Hill, Hastings, and also provides pensions of £15 per annum to decayed inhabitants of All Saints and St. Clement's Parishes.

HASTINGS, FROM THE HOLLINGTON ROAD.

The view on page 253 was taken from the same locality as that on page 251, and where the farm cart is seen is now the Bohemia Road, formerly called the Hollington Lane.

Near the spot is Bohemia Mansion (as it was formerly called). It is prominent in several views, standing, as it does, on high ground. Previous to its erection the estate was part of the Collier Lands, and was farmed by one Samuel Cramp in 1762. In 1769 it came into the possession of General James Murray, who married a Miss Collier. In 1770 to 1782 the land was occupied by Benjamin Foster (whose descendants are still living in Hastings) and continued in this family until 1804, and thence passed to George Lewis Newnham Collingwood, who purchased it of William Green, who was, like General Murray, a son-in-law of John Collier. Mr. Collingwood built the Mansion, while the land was farmed by a Mr. Vincett, who then kept the Bell Hotel, Bexhill (1814). In 1830, the estate was bought and tenanted by Boykett Breeds, and the Mansion by Mr. H. Bonham, M.P. for Rye. In May of that year the Princess Sophia of Gloucester and suite resided there for three months. It was purchased from Boykett Breeds by Wastel Brisco, Esq., whose descendants owned the property until recently, when the Mansion and grounds were put up to public auction and purchased by the tenant occupier, and Bohemia House is now a Collegiate School.

HOLLINGTON CHURCH-IN-THE-WOOD (see page 254).

Here is Charles Lamb's description after a visit to this Church in 1823: "I have just returned from Hastings, where are exquisite views and walks, and where I have given up my soul to walking. . . . I abused Hastings, but learned its value. There are spots, inland bays, etc., which realise the notions of Juan Fernandez. The best thing I hit upon was a small country Church (by whom or when built unknown), standing bare and single in the midst of a grove, with no house or appearance of habitation within a quarter of a mile, on y passages diverging from it through beautiful woods, to so many farm houses. There it stands, like the first idea



By F Nicholson, R.A.]

[From the Author's Collection.

HASTINGS, FROM THE HOLLINGTON ROAD, ABOUT 1812.



By D. Passmore.]

From the Author's Collection

HASTINGS FROM BOHEMIA, 1838.

Published at the Pelham Library, Pelham Arcade, Hastings.

This view is taken near the site of the intended New Hospital, and the building on the right is the Convent of All Souls, founded in 1834, and close by is the Brisco Land belonging to the Corporation.

of a Church, before parishioners were thought of, nothing but birds for its congregation, or like a hermit's oratory (the hermit dead), or a mausoleum, its effects singularly impressive, like a Church found in a deserted isle to startle Crusoe with a home image; you must make out a vicar and a congregation from fancy, for none surely will come there, yet it wants not its pulpit, and its font, and all seemly additaments of *our* worship."

In Dawson's Work on "Hastings Castle," full particulars are given of Hollington Prebend, Parish, and Church. "The Manor of Hollington (also called Holinton, Holington, and Honintun"), lies wholly in the Parish of Hollington, and is mentioned in Domesday Survey. In Henry VIII's Valuation, the Priory at Hastings had rents in Hollington amounting to £2 os. 6d. It was granted to Sir Anthony Brown, of Battle Abbey. In 1648 the property in



By T. Ross.]

[From the Author's Collection.

HOLLINGTON CHURCH-IN-THE-WOOD, 1835.

(Founded in 14th Century—Restored, 1861.)

the Parish of Hollington, probably including St. Margaret's and St. Leonards, Hastings, was valued at £461 15s. The Manor afterwards passed into the hands of the Pounce family. In 15 Geo. III., it is vested in John Pelham, Esq., at whose death, April 7th, 1786, it passed to his only brother and heir, Henry Pelham, Esq. In 1789 its patron was Sir Charles Eversfield, Bart. The living of Hollington was gazetted a rectory on July 12th, 1867, and a rectory house was built on the glebe, during the incumbency of the Rev. F. Whistler. Horsfield's account of the Church states the building to be small, calculated to accommodate about 150 persons. It consists of a chancel, nave, and tower, the latter of which is low

having only one bell. The Church is picturesquely situated in the heart of a romantic wood, having, according to Horsfield (in 1835) no hut or house of any kind within a quarter of a mile. Mr. Hayley describes it in his letter of Sir William Burrell in 1777, as being situate “in the middle of a wood (Church Wood), and having no memorial of interment of any person therein. The general style of the Church appears to be early English, and Perpendicular, with later insertions. It now appears to have been refaced with stone, and a new porch added, and otherwise restored. The graveyard now contains many handsome monuments of the rich, but it still retains something of the beauty of its sequestered situation.” Present Incumbent, Rev. A. B. Taylor, the Rectory. Mr. William Harmer, of Hollington, published a *Souvenir of Hollington Old Church* in 1865, giving its history. It would therefore appear that when Charles Lamb described his visit in 1823, he had made no research.

Readers of this book are assured that Hastings and its environs are just as beautiful and health-giving, and the walks and drives around it as lovely as when Charles Lamb penned his eulogy.



By Charles Catton. R.A.]

[Lent by Mr. F. G. Langham.

“VIEW NEAR HASTINGS.”

The original of this is a beautiful executed coloured engraving and inscribed, “Painted by Catton, engraved by Sutherland,” and described as above. There is a good deal of speculation in regard to the spot from which the artist drew this picture, which he describes as a “View *near* Hastings.” It is one of a very fine collection possessed by Lieut.-Col. F. G. Langham, who himself believes the hill

front to be that which projected from the Castle, called the “Gun Garden,” which was removed about 1824 to allow the building of Castle Street (West-end), and is shewn in several views, some with a flag staff used for signalling. In this case the open country beyond must be intended by the artist to represent the Priory Valley, with the ruins of the Old Priory and the Priory Farm House; the large house beyond might be Bohemia House, the houses between the two hills might represent buildings on the Priory Meadows, but the distant hill, which would then be White Rock and St. Michael’s, is in shape and its conical form so unlike it that this theory is open to doubt. Another speculation is, that the view is taken from the East Hill, but where is the Castle on the West Hill? It is most unlikely the artist would have drawn this picture without adding the ruins. The writer shares Mr. Langham’s opinion, and suggests the probable date from 1790 to 1800. Some license by the artist must be allowed for.



By J. Rouse.]

[Lent by Dr. G. Vickerman Hewland.]

VIEW OF HASTINGS CASTLE, WITH RUINS OF ROYAL FREE
CHAPEL—1836.

Much of the Chapel was reconstructed out of buried ruins.

This view now shews the Chapel, as it appeared twelve years after the extensive excavations ordered to be made by the Earl of Chichester, and ably superintended by Mr. W. G. Moss in conjunction with Mr. William Herbert of the Guildhall Library (the writer of Moss’s *History of Hastings*, 1824), whose work is interestingly set out in a journal kept by Mr. Herbert. (Through the kindness of the late Mr. Charles Dawson, F.S.A., the author is permitted to give the following extracts):—

MR. WILLIAM HERBERT'S JOURNAL OF EXCAVATIONS
AT HASTINGS CASTLE.*Extract from Charles Dawson's "Hastings Castle."*

Wednesday, Sept. 8, 1824. Set off at 10 o'clock in the morning from London, and arrived at Hastings about 7 o'clock in the evening. Informed Mr. M. (Moss)* was gone to Mr. S.'s (Shadwell)† to dine with Lord C(hicester) and a party. Set up for him until about 11 o'clock when he returned and informed me we were to see Lord C. the next morning at 10 o'clock.

Thursday, 9th. Went according to appointment and saw Lord C. this morning. Conversé over the business to be done. After which accompanied his Lordship to the Castle, who occupied upwards of an hour in inspecting the progress which had been made, which he was so well satisfied with, that it was settled the work should proceed under the direction of Mr. M. (Moss) and self. Commenced accordingly on his lordship's departure by getting some men to dig on the outside of the east wall, by which means he suggested a considerable height of wall might be obtained all along for the purpose of enclosing the Castle yard, without building a new temporary wall as was proposed on what seemed the old foundation. Dug down a depth of 8 or 9 ft., to which we found the wall continued smooth and perfect, and continuing southwards, found at a small distance the commencement of a semi-circular projection, which proved to be the lower part of a large tower.

Friday, 10th. Continued the digging southward with additional men, and in the course of the day cleared a second corresponding tower with a gateway entrance into which we excavated sufficiently far to find the groove for the portcullis, and the two iron hooks on which the hinges of the gate turned. Two small coins found in digging near the spot. Gave the men, Mr. M. and self each 2s. 6d. on discovering the second semi-circular tower.

Saturday, 11th. Proceeded with clearing out the gateway, and the outside of the line of wall running south from the second tower of the gateway, in both which so great a progress was made that the complete form of all that remained of this fine entrance was disclosed and its dimensions measured (refer for description of it), prepared an account of this discovery for the *Morning Herald* (before given), which I read over to Mr. Shadwell, who called at our lodgings on the Sunday, with which he was very well pleased and ordered the paper when printed to be bought and sent him.

Sunday, 12th. Dined in company of Mr. M. at Mr. Shorter's at Guestling. Read my account for paper to him, with which he expressed himself much pleased and likewise requested it when printed to be bought and sent to him. Nice dinner, apple pudding with cream, delicious!

Monday, 13th. The order which it was found necessary to make to prevent hindrance to the workmen, of refusing admission to company within the walls, except Sundays, was acted on to-day and numbers went away disappointed (upon the whole pretty civilly). Proceeded with the outside of the wall and gateway entrance between the towers, the latter of which was entirely cleared out, and began to clear the gateway tower and wall on the inside of the Castle yard. Mr. Shorter, Mr. Milward and other gentlemen called this day and expressed themselves much pleased and surprised with the discovery made. N.B.—A handsome shaped metal pitcher found this day in the Castle well, and consigned to the keeping of Mr. Shadwell.

Thursday, 14th. Began to clear out the southernmost tower of the gateway, which we found formed a pretty apartment measuring . . . feet by . . . feet floored with a hard substance resembling *terraz*. The walls of this room were so far destroyed as to be in few places more than breast high, and extremely rugged and uneven at the top, but the remains of the plaster on its sides, notwithstanding the length of time they had been buried was plainly perceptible, the remains of one of the windows by which it was enlightened on the south side existed, and was of that species usual in similar buildings, viz., broad inside, and narrowing outwards, so as to give the appearance externally of little more than a lancet-shaped loophole. A passage from this room between the Castle wall on its south side . . . feet long and . . . feet wide, led on mounting a stone step to a doorway or look-out through the wall, the prospect from which as well as from the apartment communicating with it is delightful.

*Mr. Moss: *vide* his *History of Hastings*.

†Grandfather of W. Lucas Shadwell, lately M.P. for Hastings.—C.D.

Continued during the remainder of this day clearing the outside of the Castle wall southwards, as well as inside next the base of the tower mentioned.

N.B.—Men began this day to build me a room next the entrance to the Castle to be in case of rain, or to write, make memorandums, etc. Order that everything was to be delivered to me to give into Mr. Shadwell's custody.

Wednesday, 15th. The men occupied the greater part of this day in lowering, breaking to pieces and tumbling down into the ditch large fragments of wall which had fallen, and which prevented digging alongside of, and continuing the clearing of the east wall. They worked exceedingly well, breaking, prising and rolling down the side of the Castle ditch, astonishingly large masses, not without considerable danger: so much so that one of the labourers (a young Irishman) slipped all the way down the steep, almost perpendicular, but he contrived with admirable address to light on his feet, and climbed up again unhurt with the nimbleness of a cat! So well pleased with the men (sixteen of whom were employed, with extras, in this perilous business), that I gave them two gallons of beer to drink.

Mr. M. (Moss) set off by the mail for London this night at 8 o'clock.

Thursday, 16th. Finished cutting a passage from the newly discovered gateway through the acclivity of earth and rubbish next it, into the Castle yard, and removed by some way a great quantity of stones thrown on the terrace walk before the east wall, by clearing the tower above mentioned, etc. Breaking and removing the large masses of wall that had fallen, continued as on the day before.

Mem. A delightful fine day.

Friday, 17th. Began this day to clear away from the back front of the westernmost semi-circular tower of gateway, and went on with clearing the outside of the line of wall facing terrace—when discovered at 50 feet distance the lower part of another projecting semi-circular tower. Continued getting down, and throwing into the ditch various large fragments of wall that had fallen down, and impeded the work, one of these (the half of which had been broken off and thrown down the preceding day) measured when whole 25 feet in length, 3 feet in height, and was nearly 7 feet broad, the weight of which could not have been less than 20 tons. Very fine day. Gave the men 1s. for beer.

Saturday, 18th. (Here the Journal ends.)

On reference to Powell's Plan of 1819, page 115, four Windmills on the West Hill are shewn, and their position corresponds with the "Mill Field" on the Plan of the Collier Lands (see Nos. 52-53), and now represented on the left hand side of the Priory Road (formerly called Barrack Road), from Plynlmmon to Whitefriars Road, From 1812 to 1830, Mr. Rowe Carswell, miller and baker, of 56, High Street, owned two of these mills and a granary on the site of Plynlmmon Terrace and adjacent property. In a plan of Hastings Castle made by William Herbert, 1824 (in Dawson's History), a house is drawn and marked "Old Mill House," opposite the present Whitefriars Hotel.

These Mills formed prominent landmarks, and appear in many views of Hastings. There were two or three until about 1874.

From a Catalogue in the Author's Collection the last Mill was sold by auction by Messrs. Breeds & Sons, on Saturday, March 28th, 1874, and is described as a Smock Wind Mill.



[Lent by Mr. A. G. Fidler.]

THE RUINS OF HASTINGS CASTLE—1786.

Engraved for the "Gentleman's Magazine." One of the first views of Hastings known to collectors was published in the "Gentleman's Magazine" from wood cuts.



[By James Rouse.]

[Lent by Dr. G. Vickerman-Hewland.]

"SOUTH VIEW OF HASTINGS CASTLE."

Published by J. Rouse & P. Powell, Hastings.
(Not dated.)

THE GOVERNMENT OF HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS.

This has undergone several changes. In the 14th Century there were seven parishes in Hastings: All Saints, St. Clement, St. Mary-in-the-Castle, St. Michael, St. Margaret, St. Leonard, and St. Andrew. About 1440, the four last-named were mentioned in Bishop Praty's Register as "depopulated and diminished by the inroads of the Sea." The town had sunk so low that Seaford (see Jeakes) received a new Charter of Incorporation to aid Hastings in supplying its quota of 21 ships to the navy of the Cinque Ports. In the year 1588, Queen Elizabeth, as a return for the assistance rendered by ships and men of Hastings during the Spanish Armada, granted Hastings its Charter of Incorporation. The Chief Magistrate was then called the Bailiff, but from the date of this Charter, was designated Mayor (Thomas Haye being the first). A complete list of Mayors and dates will be found in "Parsons' Red Book" for 1920. For two centuries the town was but a fishing place, and smuggling and privateering were occupations of high and low, rich and poor, and the French were continually attacking, burning, and pillaging it. From about the middle of the 18th Century brighter days began to dawn, visitors being attracted by its health-giving air and its beautiful surroundings. In 1801 the population was 3,175, and every decennial return gave remarkably increased numbers. In 1831 the population was 10,231. Building operations in all directions, especially along the sea front east and west, were going on. In 1832 The Improvement Act was passed for paving, lighting, cleansing, and improving the town and Port of Hastings in the County of Sussex, and for establishing and regulating Markets therein, and supplying the Inhabitants thereof with Water, and for other purposes. The preamble of this is: "Whereas an Act was passed in The First Year of the Reign of His late Majesty, King George the Fourth, intituled An Act for repealing an Act of his Late Majesty's Reign, for paving and improving the Parish of Saint Clement in the Town and Port of Hasting, in the County of Sussex and for granting other and more effectual powers in lieu thereof, for paving and otherwise improving the Streets, Lanes, and other Public Passages and Places; and for repaving the Highways within the said Parish and the Parish of All Saints, and that part of the Parish of St. Mary-in-the-Castle, which is situate within the Liberties of the said Town and Port, whereby certain powers were given to persons therein named, and from Time to Time to be appointed Commissioners for the Purposes. Those mentioned in the Act are—

John Adams.	Thomas Breeds.	Walter Crouch.
Wm. Amooore.	Thomas Baker.	Nathaniel Crouch.
Wm. Bayley.	Boykett Breeds.	George Bristow
Wastel Brisco.	Wm. Breeds.	Carpenter.
James Breeds.	John Bayley, the younger.	John Coussens.
Wm. Bishop.	George Bennett.	Wm. Campbell.
Thomas James Breeds.	Charles Stevens Crouch.	Richard Chandler.
Solomon Bevell.	Benjamin Coffrett.	Wm. Chapman.

Wm. Camac.	Wm. Longley.	John Smith (stone-
Wm. Duke.	Edward Milward.	mason).
Thomas Daniel.	John Manington.	George Stonestreet.
Arthur Deudney.	Jonathan Mose.	Griffen Stonestreet
George Duke.	Wm. Warden.	(clerk)
Wm. Edwards.	Chas. Frederick Mott.	Wm. Thorpe.
Wm. Ellis.	Frederick North.	Henry Thwaites.
John Eaton.	Samuel Nash.	Richard Tutt.
Thomas Reeve Emary.	Thomas Phillips.	George Tutt.
James Emary.	John Phillips.	Thomas Thwaites (sail-
Thomas Foster.	John Plummer.	maker).
Edward Furmer.	Peter Malaperte Powell.	John Tree.
Matthew Fagg.	George Robinson, the	John Thwaites.
John Gill.	elder.	John Townsend.
Hickman Godlee.	George Robinson, the	Webster Whistler (clerk).
Richard Harman (over-	younger.	Thomas White.
seer).	Wm. Ransom, the elder.	Abraham Wood.
Joseph Hannay.	Wm. Ransom, the	John Williams, the
John Hide.	younger.	younger.
Thomas Curtis Hutchin-	Wm. Ridley.	Edmund Weekes.
son.	John Russell.	Humphrey Wickham.
Francis Henbury.	John Goldsworthy	Stephen Welfare.
Richard Harman (inn-	Shorter.	Wm. Winter.
keeper).	Wm. Lucas-Shadwell.	Wm. Wellerd.
Anthony Harvey, the	Wm. Scrivens, the elder.	Nicholson Harris Wimble.
younger.	Wm. Scrivens, the	Sir Walter Waller, Bart.
George Jackson.	younger.	Wm. Wallinger (clerk).
John Inskipp.	George Strickland.	and William Blivers
Chas. John Jeudwine.	Benjamin Standen.	Wallis.
Chas. Lavender.	Wm. Standen.	
James Lansdell.	John Smith (baker)	

Together with twenty-one persons to be elected in manner hereafter mentioned, and their successors to be appointed, the provisions hereinafter contained, shall be, and they are hereby appointed Commissioners for carrying this Act into execution, and shall be called "The Commissioners for the improvement of the Town and Port of Hastings."

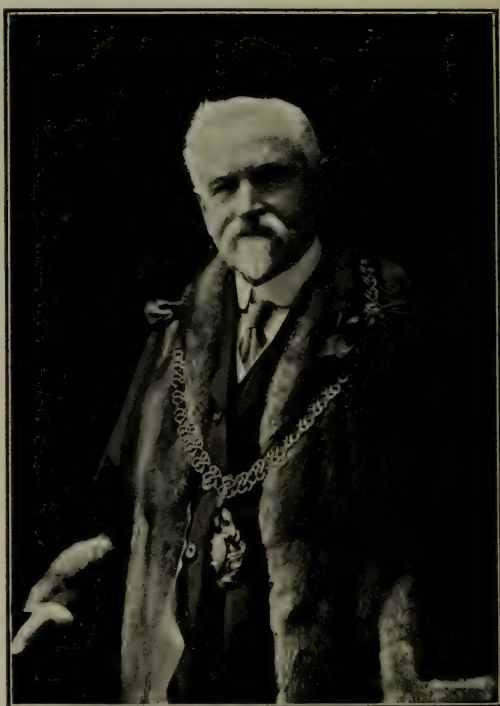
Under this Act powers were obtained "to cause the Stream or Water, called the Bourne, or such part thereof as they think requisite, to be contracted, paved, and covered over, and otherwise improved. Also to establish the Market in George Street, to provide Fire Engines, for the better paving, lighting by gas or oil, and cleaning the town, and to improve streets, to provide waterworks, and other matter." Under this Act of George IV. the Corporation received the right to levy a duty of 2s. 6d. per ton on Coals sold within the Borough, the abolition of which has recently engaged the attention of the Corporation.

In the first Edition of this Book this right was attributed to the Charter of Queen Elizabeth in error.—*Author.*)

Another Act was passed in the second year of the reign of William IV., intituled "An Act for better paving, lighting, watching, and otherwise improving the Town of St. Leonard, in the County of Sussex;" the said Town of St. Leonard being included within the boundaries of the said Borough, so fixed as aforesaid, etc. St. Leonard was then governed by Commissioners. Their names being:—J. Burton, H. W. Browne, Col. Jeffries, R. Deudney, R. Shepherd, J. Wells, H. Stapleton, T. Thorne, J. Rock, T. J. Breeds, Howard Elphinstone, B. Homan, E. Farncombe, W. Norsworthy,

W. Waghorne, E. Smith, G. Ditch, H. Hook, W. F. Ditch, and C. H. Southall. Mr. Geo. Fraser (Clerk), Tom Leave (Surveyor), also a Beadle named Henry Harmer, to be provided with a great coat, a hat, and a staff.

In 1851, under the Public Health Act, these Commissioners went out of office, and the town was divided into Wards, with a Mayor, Aldermen, and 18 Councillors, when Hastings and St. Leonards joined hands and the united town started upon a career of prosperity as a seaside resort, and went on uninterruptedly until 1901, when the population had risen to 65,528 in the Municipal Borough. The Parliamentary Borough numbers 67,817 inhabitants. At the last census this shewed a slight decrease.



THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR,
COUNCILLOR W. PERRINS, J.P.

Who is also Speaker of the Courts of Brotherhood and Guestling.

The list of Mayors from 1832 is as follows:—

1833—Robert Ranking.	1838—Peter F. MacCabe.	1845—John Hornby Maw.
1834—William Scrivens.	1839—Francis Smith.	1846—Fred. Ticehurst.
1835—R. M. Wilmot.	1840—Francis Smith.	1847—Fred. Ticehurst.
1836—R. M. Wilmot.	1841—William Duke.	1848—Alfred Burton.
„ —William Thorpe.	1842—Wastel Brisco.	1849—George Scrivens.
„ —Robert Ranking.	1843—Peter F. MacCabe.	1850—James Emary.
1837—William Duke.	1844—George Scrivens.	1851—Thomas Hickes.

1852—Thomas Hickes.	1878—Ch. Hy. Gausden.	1903—B. H. W. Tree.
1853—Charles Clift.	1879—Henry Winter.	1904—Charles Eaton.
1854—Will Ginner.	1880—Ch. Hy. Gausden.	1905—Rbt. W. Mitchell.
1855—Fred. Ticehurst.	1881—W. F. Revill.	1906—Stan. T. Weston.
1856—Thomas Ross.	1882—W. F. Revill.	1907—Rbt. W. Mitchell.
1857—James Rock, jun.	1883—G. A. Thorpe.	1908—Fdk. Tuppenney.
1858—Will Ginner.	1884—Edwin Bradnam.	1909—Rbt. W. Mitchell.
1859—Edward Hayles.	1885—Edwin Bradnam.	1910—Rbt. W. Mitchell
1860—Fred. Ticehurst.	1886—Geo. Arch. Thorpe.	(a Baron of the
1861—Thomas Ross.	1887—William Stubbs.	Cinque Ports).
1862—Will Ginner.	1888—William Stubbs.	1911—George Hutchings.
1863—James Rock, jun.	1889—William Stubbs.	1912—George Hutchings.
1864—Stephen Putland.	1890—Edwin Bradnam.	1913—E. Armitage
1865—Fred. Ticehurst.	1891—B. H. W. Tree.	Hocking.
1866—William Scrivens.	1892—A. R. Croucher.	1914—E. Armitage
1867—Will Ginner.	1893—B. H. W. Tree.	Hocking.
1868—William Scrivens.	1894—Stan. T. Weston.	1915—George Hutchings.
1869—William Scrivens.	1895—Stan. T. Weston.	1916—George Hutchings.
1870—William Scrivens.	1896—Stan. T. Weston.	Died, and in his
„ —Thomas Ross.	1897—Fdk. Bagshawe.	stead
1871—Thomas Ross.	1898—F. Tuppenney.	„ —William Perrins.
1872—Thomas Ross.	1899—F. Tuppenney.	1917—William Perrins.
1873—Ch. Hy. Gausden.	1900—Fred. A. Langham.	1918—Arthur Blackman.
1874—Geo. Arch. Thorpe.	1901—Fred. A. Langham.	1919—William Perrins.
1875—Geo. Arch. Thorpe.	(a Baron of the	
1876—Ch. Hy. Gausden.	Cinque Ports).	
1877—John Howell.	1902—B. H. W. Tree.	

AN INTERESTING HISTORY OF OLD SUSSEX IRON WORK.

BY THE LATE CHARLES DAWSON, F.S.A.

“The origin of the iron industry in the Weald dates from pre-historic times, for Julius Cæsar mentions it as well established before the time of his invasion.

It is conjectured to have been introduced by Belgic settlers in Sussex between the 4th and 5th centuries B.C. Fine examples of iron weapons and utensils were in use during that period which is called the “late Celtic” period in Britain and the slag-heaps in Beauport Park (near Hastings) furnish evidence that in Romano-British days the art of manufacture of both wrought and cast iron had reached a considerable degree of perfection. No records are known to exist relating to the production of iron in the Weald during the Anglo-Saxon period, and even the Domesday Book is silent on the subject. Although it can scarcely be doubted that the industry flourished during the intervening period no mention appears until the 13th century, after which time records of it became more and more frequent until its decay and final extinction in the early years of the 19th century.

The chief staple of the industry lay in the production of “bar” and “pig-iron” which was carted or floated away and distributed throughout England and even upon the Continent. Among the important staples of home manufacture, without taking into account other innumerable articles of domestic and economic use, were horse-shoes and nails, fire-backs, brand-irons, grave-slabs, mile-stones, ordnance and other weapons of every description.

The first *cast iron* (as distinguished from brass) cannon in England was made at the Buxted furnace by Rafe Hogge about the year 1543, and portions of his early trial pieces have been lately found there. Nearly all the iron-ordnance used by England from the time of its introduction to the end of the Stuart period and, to a lesser extent, up to the end of the 18th century, emanated from the Weald: the foundries of Ashburnham, Robertsbridge and Brightling being among the last to produce it. This manufacture was carried on under Royal licence, but notwithstanding this precaution a considerable amount of illicit exportation existed.

Among the most striking examples of Sussex iron from a decorative point of view may be mentioned the iron fire backs or plates. Scarcely injured by ages of wood-fire, they have been preserved to us in an innumerable variety. The periods of their manufacture are indicated by the designs upon them, or the methods adopted in producing the designs.

The principal sites of the iron furnaces in the Rape of Hastings, with the names of some of their old masters in parentheses are as follows :—

Ashburnham (Ashburnham family—Relfe—Courthope—G. Brown); Battle, Park Mill—(R. Jarvis); Beauport, Westfield (Roman); Beech, near Battle (The Abbot of Battle—R. Hay—J. Lord Ashburnham—Sir T. Webster); Beckley [also glass]; Bibleham, near Mayfield (Pelham family); Barnhorne (R. Longley ?) Brede (Lenard—Sackville—J. Browne—Western); Brightling (Fuller); Buckholt, near Bexhill; Bugshill, near Salehurst (The Abbot of Robertsbridge); Chitcombe, near Brede; Cowbeach, near Herstmonceux; Cralle, near Warbleton (Cheney); Crowhurst (Pelham); Dallington (Pelham—Ashburnham); Darvell (Pelham); Etchingham—(Sir T. Webster); Ewhurst—(S. Carey); Frant, Sussex border (Shoesmith—Barham—H. Neville); Hammerden; *Hastings, Alexandra Park**; Lamberhurst, (Gloucester furnace) Sussex Border (Prickett—Benge—Legass and Gott—Tapsell); Riverhall, near Wadhurst (Fowle and Courthope); Robertsbridge (Abbot of Robertsbridge, Sydney family—Culpepper—H. English—T. Snapp—W. Pohill—D. Guy—J. Bourne—Jukes—Harrison); Robertsbridge Steel Mill (Glaziers); Sedlescombe (Farndens—Baker—Bishop); Scragoak, near Wadhurst (Fowle—Barham—Manser); Snape, near Wadhurst (Barham—Culpepper); Sokenersh, near Brightling (Collins family); Ticehurst; Udiham (J. Culpepper and H. English); Wadhurst at Ferredge (Barham—Shoesmith); Warbleton (Woodman “the Martyr”).

The cinders and clinkers of the old furnaces are to be found on many farms throughout the Weald, for the business of local agriculture was strangely blended with that of iron production by

*The Iron Works at Alexandra Park, Hastings, are denoted on the map of 1291, on page 16 and numbered 10 (see page 19.)

the Wealden owners and farmers. Many of the largest contracts for the supply of iron were shared out by the larger to the lesser foundries, and it is from this cause that so many localities claim that their furnace made the railings for S. Paul's Cathedral (*temp.* Charles II.), the contract having been farmed out by the Lamberhurst Furnace.

The sites of the old furnaces are generally to be traced along the out-crops of the strata, geologically known as the Wadhurst clay, and it was upon the same stiff clay which contained the iron ore that flourished the noble Wealden oaks, now long ago sacrificed for the smelting of the metal. So soon as the Wealden forest trees called by the Celts "Anderida," (*An-dar-udu* the oak wood) grew scarce, then the iron industry became extinct. Many folks still bewail the treeless forests of Sussex wrecked by the old time industry; but with the memory of their loss they may associate many a noble thought of brave deeds, long past, for it is not too much to say, and it should not be forgotten by Sussex men, that the weapons in the hands of the makers of England, with which they hewed out the foundations of the Empire, sprang from the soil of Sussex."

In the Descriptive Catalogue of the Muniments of Battle Abbey, by Thomas Thorpe, published 1835, is the following:—

Westalle's Booke of Pannyngrydge, A°.regni Regis Hen. VII. xxxviii° i.e. 1546.

A volume thus designated, contains the Accounts of some Iron Master and exhibits his expenditure in carrying on an extensive concern, during that year. Payments made to the wood cutters, for "coards of Wood" at three pence per coard. The collears were paid in coards of wood and money for coals, after the rate of twenty two pence the load.

A coard of wood, in Sussex, is in measure fourteen feet long, three feet wide, and three feet 2 inches high; the two inches in height being allowed for shrinking or settling.

Sums paid for carrying Coals out of Pannyngrydge, Olyvers Wood and Asyldey, at four-pence and six-pence the load. "Moyne digged out of Pannyngrydge"—refers to the iron ore mined or dug up in the neighbourhood—"Paid unto Black Jack and others, for digging of loads of moyne, at seven pence the load," etc.

Sums paid "to Warnet, the founder and the filler," who from several of the entries it appears was named Anthony.

Sums paid for "carying of lodes of sand from Pannyngrydge unto my forge at Robertsbyrge, at xvjd the lode."

Sums paid Mr. Chancellor, for the farm of his Woods at Pannyn-grydge; sums paid unto the Parson of Penherst, for the farm of the Phurner (Furnace) pond there; as also for the Tythe of the Phurner there, &c.

Sums paid in reparation, hewing or felling of timber; foe drawing the same tymbre to the cole-house; for drawing of timber

to saw stage, &c. These accounts close with the entry of vs and vd paid “for a Wrytte and a Warrant for Jackson, the Carpenter.”

Sussex has long been famous for its mines and manufacture of iron, and is said to have many pools of water, formed solely with the intention of driving the hammer mills, constructed at various periods. The mention of Robertsbridge points out the source whence this volume came amongst the Battle Abbey Papers. The Manor of Robertsbridge was possessed, in the time of Elizabeth by Sir Henry Sydney, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. The famous Sir Phillip Sydney his son, died seized of it 28th of her reign; his da. and heiress Elizabeth, married Roger, Earl of Rutland. The manor was subsequently possessed by the Earls of Leicester, until 1720, when John, Earl of Leicester, sold it to John Sambroke, Esq., of whom, in 1725, Sir Thomas Webster purchased it. Rouse quoted a document of the year 1609, which described the Manor house, sometime called Elam, in the Parish of Salehurst, as then having various buildings for the steel makers, with eight steel forges, mill house; the great East-gate employed as a store house for iron, &c.



HISTORICAL NOTES.

The name of Henry Meleward (or Milward) first mentioned in 1292. He signed the deed of 5 acres of land in the parish of Saint Margaret of Hastings, granted by Patronilla de Cham, now known as the Magdalen Charity Land.

Richard Meleward was Constable of the St. Anne, a Hastings ship in the King's Service.—Henry I., 1100.

The Milward family originally came from Pevensey and owned land at Winchelsea. Edward Mileward, Captain of the Trained Band, 1632.

The late Rev. W. C. Sayer-Milward possessed a book bound in vellum containing the Minutes of the Brotherhood and Guestling 1633.

Henry Sayer, a London solicitor, owned land near the Hastings Gas Works in 1768. The late Rev. W. C. Sayer-Milward was a descendant.

The first Hastings Regatta was held on September 13th, 1821.

Edward Milward was Mayor of Hastings in 1686; again in 1699 and 1721. His son, Edward Milward, was Mayor for the first time in 1750, and his grandson, Edward Milward, junior, in 1786.

Halton Barracks were erected on land called the "Gallows Field." The district in the reign of Queen Elizabeth was called "Halltoun." A portion of about 30 acres was sold to the Government in 1797 to build the Barracks. The Barracks were sold by auction for £7,000, a fourth of their cost, in 1823, to Boykett Breeds & Co.

James Burton, the founder of St. Leonards, was born in 1761, and died in 1837, aged 76. The family name was originally "Haliburton."

In 1814 there was a gin shop called the Blacksmith's Arms on the site of Holy Trinity Church.

1797—A great number of the gentry have of late years resorted to Hastings from London and the neighbouring country during the summer season.

Samuel Prout, the artist, was sketching in Hastings 1820, and resided at 53, George Street.

Thomas Ross opened a shop at 6, Castle Street, as a Drawing Master, 1830.

George Wooll, Picture Seller and Publisher of Hastings Views, opened a shop at 5, High Street, in 1823, afterwards at No. 43, (now Reeves' furniture shop).

In 1829 there were 30 Bathing Machines at Marine Parade between the "Town and the Priory."

The last repairs to the Town Wall were effected in 1667. (Corporation Records.)

There were Barracks at Silverhill in 1802. Also at Bopeep, Battle, Bexhill, and Winchelsea.

In 1795, on January 25th, the sea was frozen at Hastings. There were 25 degrees of frost.

The Vintners held the Inns called the Chequers, Swan, and the George in 1746.

Tamarisk Steps, to Tackleway, named after the shrub of that name, which grew profusely on the cliffs.

Garrick, the actor, appeared in a Charity performance whilst staying with Capel at East Cliff House, 1772.

The last Sussex Iron Foundry at Ashburnham "shut down," 1809.

At the siege of Calais, in 1347, Hastings furnished 5 ships and 99 mariners.

The town of Hastings was burnt by the French in 1377.

The Corporation Records commence 1596.

The last Member for Hastings returned on the Lord Warden's nomination was Sir Dennis Ashburnham in 1684-5.

The thatching of houses was prohibited in Hastings in 1618.

Thomas Lane, of Hellingly, yeoman, died about 1579, seized of a messuage named St. George's, and lands and tenements containing 60a., called St. George's Hill in the Port of Hastings.

James Hobson was the purchaser of the Cliffs Lands (now Clive Vale), in 1544.

The Corporation Records, 1674, state the place for making and working ropes was from the West Fort towards the Priory, under the Castle Cliffs.

In February, 1657, it was ordered that no ships should be built except beyond the West Fort, under a penalty of £20.

The Eversfield Estate in 1565 was held by one Laurence Levitt, who died in 1585, his sister Mary married Thomas Eversfield, of Uckfield, and their descendant is now the owner.

The Church at Bulverhythe (then called Bolewarheth), was built by the Earls of Eu. First mentioned in the Local Records, 1372. The building has been in ruins for centuries.

Bulverhithe, as a port, is mentioned in the 13th Century. The district is now under the Corporation of Hastings.

The banns of marriage were published in the market-place, on three market days in 1654.

A man was buried at St. Clements, 1700, "without the funeral office," he having hanged himself.

Another, named Jeremiah Wright, was buried at St. Clements, 1758. "He was suffocated by the straightness of his handkerchief."

Old Winchelsea was destroyed by the sea in 1287.

An Ordinance was passed in 1695 compelling widows and bachelors to pay a tax of one shilling yearly.

Hastings Priory destroyed by the sea and removed to Warbleton 1413.

New Church of All Saints, Hastings, *circa*, 1436.

Queen Elizabeth visited Rye, Winchelsea, and Northiam, 1573.

Elizabethan Pier at Hastings destroyed by a storm, 1596-7.

Plague of Small-pox at Hastings, 1731. 97 died.

Martello Towers built on the Sussex Coast, 1805.

The Derwent Lodge of Freemasons, Hastings, founded, 1813.

First Lodge held at the Cutter Inn, Fishmarket.

Battle Market was held on a Sunday until 1600. Afterwards on a Thursday. Now on a Monday.

Henry Sprott, of Hastings, was Master of a School at Battle in 1279.

John Mileward, son of Thomas Mileward, of Battle, owned a piece of land at Guestling, 1351.

William Haylman, of Hastings, sold land in Mankseye, 1382.

Edward Marsham, of Hastings, bought a Messuage at Sandlake, Battle, 1392.

Henry the Fourth's grant to John Pelham, Knight, of the Manors of Crowherst and Burwash, together with the Rape of Hastings, November 21st, 1412.

William Samewell, Goldsmith, of Hastings, leased a field to Stephen of Felde, called Mexefelde, in the Parish of Gesseling, 1428 (Maxfield Farm, Guestling).

William Worth was Mayor of Winchelsea and William Caton was Bailiff of the said City of Winchelsea in 1428.

Henry I. kept his yacht at Hastings in 1100.

Thomas a Becket was Dean of the College in Hastings Castle, 1157.

The first house built in George Street (then called "The Suburb"), 1657. Cromwellian period.

After the Battle of Waterloo some of the troops landed at Hastings, and were marched to Battle. They slept in the Great Hall of the Abbey. The Duke of Wellington was a great friend of Lady Webster.

A Mr. Hamilton had a Ship Yard on the Priory ground, when it was almost entirely a waste, about 1797.

The dwellers in Wellington Square in 1819 were Mr. H. Farncomb, Mr. M. Breeds, Mr. Wenham, Mr. Thos. Farncomb, Mr. Lansdell, Mr. Bailey, and Mr. Hazeldon.

Keddlers were used on the sands opposite the old St. Leonards Archway, fifty years ago.

Mr. Mark Anthony Lower believed the name of Bopeep had reference to the "hide-and-seek" performances of the smugglers.

The principal landowners in the Borough of Hastings eighty years ago were Mrs. Milward, Wm. Drew Lucas Shadwell, Esq., Wastel Brisco, Esq., the Earl of Cornwallis, Frederick North, Esq., and Charles G. Eversfield, Esq.

The Cinque-Ports Volunteers were enrolled in 1803. Edward Milward, Esq., Captain; John Goldsworthy Shorter, 1st Lieut.; B. Bossom, 2nd Lieut.; 3 Sergeants, and 77 rank and file in the 1st Company. In the 2nd Company: Webster Whistler, Esq., Captain; Geo. Ashburnham, 1st Lieut.; Wm. Bishop, 2nd Lieut.;

3 Sergeants, and 40 rank and file. Total, 129. There was also a Company of Sea-Fensibles enrolled under Captain Isaac Schomberg, R.N., numbering 255. The population was then between 3,000 and 4,000.

Robertson Street has been absolutely re-peopled during the 54 years the writer has known it, and the only familiar names of those then in business in the street are Langham and Son, Solicitors; Dobell, Jeweller; Lindridge, Music Seller; Amoores, Grocer; and Notcutt, Draper. All have passed away with the exception of Mr. James Notcutt, now living at St. Leonards. It must be remembered that Robertson Street was begun in 1850.

THE CUSTUMAL OF HASTINGS.

The Laws and Customs in force in all the Cinque Ports were kept by the respective Solicitors to the Ports for ages, and called "The Custumal." The copy of the Hastings Custumal was lost about 1736, being taken to London for use in a law suit and never afterwards found. But Durrant Cooper and Ross give a translation of a Norman-French copy found amongst the records of Rye (see *Suss. Arch. Coll.*, v. 14, p. 72). The heading reads:—"These are the usages of Hastings used time out of mind, compiled in the time of John Reade, at the time Bailiff, in the 30th year of Edward 3rd, A.D., 1356." They give the mode of electing the Bailiff, Jurats, and Commonalty, the Town Clerk, Coroner, and Officers; the laws as to Murder, Felony, Executions, Election of Freemen, Assaults, Alien Suspects, Distress for Rent Proven against Debtors, Markets, Purse Stealing, etc. They are quaint and curious, sometimes harsh, or even barbarous, but many just; some out-of-date, some applicable to the present day. The full text is also given in Cole's "Antiquities of Hastings," p. 161. They contain 48 clauses, but are too lengthy to be reproduced here.

ARTISTS WHO PAINTED AND ENGRAVED PICTURES OF HASTINGS APPEARING IN THIS WORK.

S. H. Grimm, who painted for "Burrell's Sussex," J. M. W. Turner, R.A., David Cox, Samuel Prout, Francis Nicholson, R.A., W. H. Brooke, F. W. L. Stockdale, J. Thorpe, W. Havell, H.H. (Henry Hunt) Marianne Johnson, H. Morton, James Rouse, G. Rowe, John Goldsworthy Shorter, Charles Turner, R.A., Annie R. Pattison, C. G. Scott, C. W. Wing, J. Nixon, Barnard, Thornton, R. Cocking, Charles Catton, R.A., W. G. Moss, Thomas Ross, John Thorpe, W. Daniell, D. Passmore, P. S. Munn, C. G. White, C. Burton, John Foalon, Arundale, G. Gendall, J. D. Harding, and others whose identity is not known.

OLD INNS OF HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS.

The Swan, High Street—see special notice—demolished 1889. Its history covers three centuries.

The Crown, All Saints' Street, about 200 years old. Formerly second in importance after the Swan.

The Cutter, Fishmarket, 100 years ago, kept by James Bell.

The Anchor, George Street, Charles West, landlord in 1852. He afterwards went to West's Cellars, Robertson Street, now the Bodega (was opened before 1798).

The King's Head, Courthouse Street.

The Hastings Arms, George Street, about 100 years old.

The George, eastern end of George Street, 150 years ago.

The Pelham, kept by Dick Chandler, 1852.

The Castle, opened by James Emary, 1816.

The Marine, Pelham Place, kept by Mr. Arthur Deudney, in 1828, afterwards by his Head Waiter, Chas. P. Hutchings.

The Albion, kept by James Emary in 1852.

The Royal Oak, kept by W. L. Yates in 1852.

The York, kept by James Hayter, 1865.

The Royal Victoria, St. Leonards, opened 1829 by Edlin.

The Brunswick—now The Star, opened about 1833.

The Warrior's Gate, London Road, opened 1833.

The Norman, Norman Road, opened about 1840.

The Saxon opened 1833. Demolished 1905.

The British, East Ascent, opened 1833, closed under new Licensing Act.

The Horse and Groom, Mercatoria, St. Leonards, opened 1831.

The Sea Side, Stratford Place (now White Rock), opened 1833, kept by John Tree in 1852. Last tenant, Thomas Storey. Now part of The Palace Hotel.

The Royal Standard, Robertson Street, kept by A. C. Rubie 1860. (Now The Sussex Wine Stores.)

The Havelock, kept by Thomas Turner, 1865.

The Fortune of War, Halton, 1800.

The Queen's, opened 1862. The first high class hotel in Hastings.

The Ship, by the Bourne Side, 1823.

The George, All Saints' Street, 1823.

The Cinque Ports' Arms, All Saints' Street, 1800.

The Hare and Hounds, Ore, 1772.

The Stag Inn, All Saints' Street, 18th century house.

The Roebuck, High Street, 1801 (now closed).

The Rose and Crown, George Street (now The Anchor), 1800.

The Old Ship, Bourne Street, 1760.

The Maidenhead, 18th century, 43, High Street.

The Red Hart, George Street, 1744.

The Shipwright Arms, Priory, 1820, removed to Winding Street, 1823 (now closed).

The Harold, St. Leonards—former site now 21, 21a and 21b, Marina (1830).

The Conquerer, on site of present Nos. 22 and 23, Marina (date about 1833).

The Tivoli Tavern, Hollington, 1837—once famous Tea Gardens.



DATE OF GUIDE BOOKS TO HASTINGS & ST. LEONARDS.

The Author is much indebted to Mr. James Castello (a diligent Collector of Local Guide Books), for compiling this list.

1794. Stell. The Hastings Guide.

This is the first Guide Book published of Hastings, and is written by "An Inhabitant" (J. Stell) and was printed for J. Stell, at his Circulating Library, Hastings and by T. N. Longman, Paternoster Row, London. It contains pp. VII + 124 + IV. 8vo. and is embellished with 3 plates, by J. G. Shorter (who was 8 times Mayor of Hastings) and also a map of the environs.

1797. Barry 2nd Edition.

Stell's Guide was continued by Barry, and contains the same plates and map. pp. 130 + IV, 8vo.

Printed for James Barry at his Circulating Library, Hastings and sold by T. N. Longman, Paternoster Row, London.

1804. Barry 3rd Edition. pp. 131 + VI, 8vo.

There are 4 plates and a map.

1815. Barry 4th Edition. pp. 83 + IV, 8vo.

"Embellished with plates" which consist of a view not in former Editions of "The Marine Parade" showing Barry's Library, and the Map.

1822.* Barry 5th Edition. pp. 74 + IV, 8vo.

"With plates" as above. The Inscription "By an Inhabitant" is omitted from Title Page.

1825.* Barry 6th Edition.

Diplock now took over the Guide. pp. VII + 94, 8vo.

Contains plate (reduced) of the Library and map. In other copies of this Edition, the plates vary.

Hastings Printed for W. Diplock. Royal Marine Library.

1828.* Barry 7th Edition. pp. VIII + 106, 8vo.

In 1845 Diplock published a new Guide (see infra).

1817. Stockdale F. W. L.

A concise Historical and Topographical Sketch of Hastings, Winchelsea, and Rye, embellished with numerous engravings from original Drawings by the Author.

Practically the whole of the work appeared in the "Antiquarian Itinerary," 1816. pp. 48, 8vo.

Published for the Proprietor by P. M. Powell, Hastings.

1819. Powell's Guide 1st Edition.

Containing a "list of the Lodging Houses at Hastings, with a brief account of the Walks and Rides to the Romantic Scenery in the vicinity," with folding coloured view of Powell's Circulating Library. pp. 35, 8vo.

Hastings Printed for P. M. Powell.

1822.* Powell's Hastings Guide, 2nd Edition. pp. 94, 8vo.

With folding view (uncoloured) as in former edition, five other views, plan of the Town and geological Map—greatly enlarged.

Published by P. M. Powell, Library, Marine Parade, Hastings and Messrs. Longman, Hurst Orme & Brown, London.

1823.* Powell's Guide, 3rd Edition. pp. 92, 8vo.

Contains 31 plates mostly by James Rouse, plans of the Town and environs.

1825. Powell's 4th Edition. pp. 91, 8vo.

With folding plate of the Library (uncoloured), plans of Hastings and the environs.

1830.* Powell's Guide, 5th Edition. pp. 95, 8vo.

With folding view of Library (uncoloured), 4 other views and plan of environs.

There is an appendix with a description of St. Leonards.

Another issue of this Edition is 12mo, pp. 102, containing 30 line engravings by J. G. Shorter.

1833.* Powell's 8th Edition. pp. 116, 12mo.

Containing a plan of the environs of Hastings and 32 line engravings by J. G. Shorter.

I shall be glad to receive particulars of the 6th and 7th Editions.

1824. Moss' History and Antiquities of the Town and Port of Hastings, illustrated by a series of engravings from original drawings by W. G. Moss.

The letter press was written by Mr. William Herbert, Librarian of the Guildhall Library.

An elaborate work containing a vast amount of information.

pp. XIV + 206, 8vo. Published by W. G. Moss, Kennington.

1826. Woolf's Pictures of Hastings.

Containing sketches of the Antiquities and Curiosities in that interesting part of the County, from a Cosmopolite to a Valetudinarian, in a series of letters.

Contains views of St. Clement's Caves, Ruins of the Chapel, Hastings Castle, Bridge at Ashburnham Place, and Hurstmonceaux Church.

It was also issued undated.

pp. 119, 8vo. Hastings, Published by G. Wool,
5, High Street.

1827. Jones' Latest Edition of the Hastings Guide. pp. 86 + XII, 12mo.

Contains a charming view of All Saint's Church and the entrance to Hastings by J. E. Dashwood.

1828. Another Edition. pp. 90 + XII.

The first Guide Book to contain an account of St. Leonards. A very short one, consisting of only 16 lines.

1830. Another Edition.

St. Leonards is now incorporated in the title; the first time it was included in any Guide Book.

It contains a view of entrance to Hastings by C. Rosenberg, which also appeared in the 1828 Edition.

Published by R. L. Jones, Pelham Library, Hastings.

- 1833.* Wooll's Strangers Guide to Hastings and St. Leonards.

Containing 8 views by George Rowe, and a list of the less common Plants in the vicinity of Hastings, with their time of flowering. pp. 70 + 11 + 16 + 6.

- 1834.* Another Edition.

Identical with the former, excepting a slight alteration in the Preface.

Hastings, published by G. Wooll, Bookseller, Stationer, &c.

- 1839.* Another Edition.

The Guide was taken over by I. B. Moor and contains slight alterations and additions.

pp. VI + 80. Hastings, Published by I. B. Moor, Royal Pelham Arcade.

- 1835 Ross' Hastings and St. Leonards Guide.

- to Written by Thomas Ross who was 5 times Mayor
1864. of Hastings. He contributed several articles of
local interest to the Sussex Archæological Collections.

It ran to 12, possibly more Editions.

I shall be glad to receive particulars of the 11th and any after the 12th.

The first consisted of 76 pages and the 12th 124.

A few editions contained plates by the Author.

Published by T. Ross, Hastings.

- 1840.* Southall's Pocket Guide to St. Leonards and Hastings.

Southall was the Proprietor of the Royal Victoria Library, afterwards Dorman's, now owned by Mr Sutherland.

I am only acquainted with the first (1840) 12mo. 6th (1850), 8th (1852) and 9th (1857) Editions.

St. Leonards-on-Sea Printed, Published, and sold by C. H. Southall, at the Royal Victoria Library, Parade.

1845. Diplock's Handbook for Hastings and St. Leonards.

This is an entirely different work to the one previously issued by Diplock, and was reprinted, dated 1846, without alteration.

pp. IV. + 228 + 62, 8vo.

- 1849.* Another Edition. Diplock's New Guide to Hastings and St. Leonards, compiled from "The Handbook to Hastings," &c. pp. 87 + 28. 8vo.

1855. Hastings Past and Present, by the Author of "A Handbook to Hastings and St. Leonards," "Brampton Rectory," and other works. Miss Mary Matilda Howard, the Authoress of "Brampton Rectory," compiled all these Guides, issued by Diplock from 1845, which contain many features of interest.

The 1855 Edition includes 4 plates by W. H. Brooke, 3 by S. Prout, and 1 by Robson.

pp. XII + VIII + 326 + LXIV + 20. Hastings, William Diplock, Royal Marine Library.

1864. 3rd Edition, Revised and enlarged.

With a Chronological Table of Events. This Edition is also issued undated.

Hastings, William Diplock, 38, Robertson Street. pp. X + 377 + 54, 8vo.

1880. 4th Edition.

Same as the 3rd Edition, with the exception of a new preface, and 25 pages of advertisements, and was published by Dorman, Royal Victoria Library, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

1893. A New Edition.

In 1885, Miss Howard compiled another Edition, but from various causes the book was not published.

After her death in 1893, Mr. Edward H. Marshall, Curator of the Brassey Institute, prepared the Handbook for publication. London, Edward Stanford. pp. VI + 191, 8vo.

- 1849.* Hopes Pictorial Guide to Hastings and St. Leonards.

An interesting Guide, containing a plan of the Environs and a large number of woodcuts by Bonner.

pp. IV + 74 + 28, 8vo.

Published by J. Hope, Marine Library and Berlin Wool Depot, East Parade (formerly Powell's Library).

1852. Osborne's Strangers Guide and Commercial Directory to Hastings and St. Leonards.

Contains a list of Streets and their inhabitants.

It is interesting to note the changes that have occurred since the book was published.

Mr. Durrant Cooper, a local Antiquarian, is believed to have assisted in the production. pp. 86 + 18, 8vo.

1854. Another Edition. pp. 99 + 10, 8vo.
Mr. Henry Cousins is of opinion that an Edition was issued in 1853, but I have not seen a copy.
Hastings, printed and sold by H. Osborne, 55, George Street.
1860. These two Editions were published by H. Osborne's Widow, and Mrs. Charlotte Osborne.
1864. 1860, pp. 114, 8vo. 1864, pp. 106 + 31, 8vo.
Hastings, printed by C. Osborne, 55, George Street.
A large portion of these Guides was extracted from Wooll's (printed by Osborne) with but little alteration.
- 1860.* Knight's Illustrated Visitors' Guide to Hastings and St. Leonards. Containing a long account of the Ancient History of Hastings, Battle, &c.
There are several views by Rock & Co., and woodcuts of Hurstmonceaux Castle and the Chapel, Bodiam Castle.
pp. 112, 8vo. Hastings, J. H. Knight, Printer and Publisher.
1863. Dorman's Guide to St. Leonards and Hastings.
Containing a History of St. Leonards and its attractions, including the Archery Grounds, which unfortunately are no longer open to the public.
The Second Edition was published in 1865, and other copies I possess are 5th Edition, 1872, containing several actual photographs. 6th Edition, 1874, 7th Edition, 1875, and one undated, probably 1868, which has several plates.
Published by J. Dorman, engravings by Newman, including one of Warrior Square, which seems strange without Queen Victoria's Statue.
St. Leonards-on-Sea, James Dorman, Royal Victoria Library.
- 1865.* Whiteman's Guide to Hastings & St. Leonards.
This is a useful compilation and contains a good plan of St. Leonards.
Other Editions, 2nd, 1866, 3rd, 1868, 4th, 1871, 6th, 1874, 7th, 1875, 9th, 1880.
Hastings, Spencer Whiteman, 9, Castle Street and 1, York Buildings.
1867. Cole's Antiquities of Hastings, and The Battle Field.
A learned work and of great value to the Archæologist. pp., 120 8vo. Karl Burg, St. Leonards.
1884. An enlarged Edition, with plan of Old Hastings and the Castle. pp. XIV + 238 + VI.
Published by the Hastings and St. Leonards Philosophical Society.

- 1876 to 1894 Parsons' Illustrated Guide to Hastings and St. Leonards. (Many editions of this excellent Guide were published between 1876 and 1894.)
It is full of interesting matter, and illustrated with wood engravings.
Hastings, Published by F. J. Parsons, "Observer Office," Claremont.
1912. "Hastings of Bygone Days and the Present."
Profusely Illustrated from Original and Rare Old Prints, etc., by Henry Cousins, Lecturer on Hastings "Past and Present." Undoubtedly the best Guide to Hastings ever written.
pp. 304 + XIX, $9\frac{1}{2} \times 6$.
Hastings, Published by F. J. Parsons, Ltd., "Observer Office," Claremont.
1921. A 2nd Edition.
The following are referred to in this Book.
1835. History, antiquities and Topography of the County of Sussex. By Thomas Walker Horsfield, F.S.A.
Vol. I, pp. VII + 592 + XV, folio.
Vol. II, pp. 274 + 90 + VIII, folio.
Sussex Press, Lewes: Baxter.
1872. Reminiscences of Smugglers and Smuggling, by John Banks.
pp. 128 + 16, 8vo.
London (For the Author), John Camden Hotten, 74 and 75, Piccadilly.
1909. History of Hastings Castle. By Charles Dawson.
Vol. I, pp. XIII + 356, folio.
Vol. II, VII, 359 to 568, folio.
Published by Constable and Co., Ltd., 10, Orange Street, Leicester Square, W.C.

Those marked with an asterick * bear the approximate dates of publication, not stated on the originals.

DATES OF GUIDE BOOKS TO HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS.

I am giving in the list below, what I believe to be all the remaining Guide Books published of Hastings.

If any Readers are acquainted with others, I shall be glad to hear of same.

Arundale. Pictorial Guide to Hastings and St. Leonards. n.d.

I have never come across a copy of this book and shall be pleased to receive particulars of same. It is mentioned in Diplock's 1855 Edition, on page VI of the Appendix.

A.A.M. (Apel, A. M.) The Way about Hastings, St. Leonards & District. n.d.

Alexander, E. B. Waistcoat Pocket Guide to Hastings. n.d.

Anon. Comic Guide to Hastings. n.d.

Bede Cuthbert (Bradley, Edward). Figaro at Hastings & St. Leonards. 1874.

B.T. (Brett, Thomas). Hastings Past & Present, committed to Rhyme. 1847.

Britannia. Comprehensive Guide to Hastings & St. Leonards. 1900

Burfield & Pennells, Ltd. Guide to The Town of Hastings. 1905.

Burrow & Co., Ltd. Hastings & St. Leonards. Many Editions between 1907 and 1919.

Burrow, E. J. The Borough Guide. 1907.

Chubb, J. W. E. Stranger's Walk through Hastings. 1880.

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The late Mr. E. H. Marshall, the Librarian of our Public Library, in writing of an exhibition of Old Hastings Guides and Views of the town, said, "As literature also, Guides must not be despised; there are bits of humour in them, quaint little touches of human nature, which come to us from the past and make the realization of them not an unpleasant occupation. Many of the books in the exhibition have illustrations of very different degrees of merit, some very rude and others really pleasing and artistic pictures. These views have a special value as showing us the former appearance of parts of the town, which are changed enough now, and in combination with the various lists of names and other bits of local information, enables us to reconstruct in imagination the Hastings of the past, the inhabitants, and their life."

HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS NEWSPAPERS.

Before Hastings could claim to possess a Newspaper of its own it was dependent upon the "Sussex Advertiser," established at Lewes in 1745; the "Brighton Herald," 1806; "Brighton Gazette," 1821; "Brighton Guardian," 1827; and the "Kentish Gazette," 1769. It was in 1830 that the "Hastings Iris," a purely local newspaper, was published by John Townsend. The "Cinque Ports Chronicle" in 1838; the "Sussex Express," 1837; the "Southern Advertiser," 1840; then in 1848, the late Mr. William Ransom (then a young man of about twenty-five) began in real earnest the one especial work of his life, the editing of the well known "Hastings and St. Leonards News," following "The Iris," above mentioned, which, however, had a short life—barely a year. So that the "News" was the first essentially local paper that lived. Its first issue was dated May 5th, 1848, the price 3½d., the quantity, four pages, four columns each. The newspaper stamp was then compulsory, which was 1½., making the actual price of the paper 2d. Then in 1854 appeared the "Hastings and St. Leonards Penny Press," by T. B. Brett. The same year "Hastings and St. Leonards Fashionable Record," by W. Walter, and "St. Leonards Advertiser," by C. H. Southall, from the Royal Library, St. Leonards (now Sutherland's), in 1853 or 1854. The "St. Leonards Advertiser" was continued by James Dorman, successor to C. H. Southall, and afterwards purchased by F. J. Parsons, and was merged in the popular "Hastings and St. Leonards Pictorial Advertiser and Visitors' List," published by F. J. Parsons, Ltd., Claremont, and was suspended when war broke out. In 1855 the late Thomas Braddon Brett, local historian, started "The St. Leonards and Hastings Gazette," about which it was his boast that he personally collected the news, set up the type, edited, and printed the newspaper, and then went out and sold it. He led a most laborious life. In 1855, the "South Eastern Advertiser and Rye Chronicle," which circulated in Hastings, was published by Isaac Parsons, the father of Frederick James Parsons. The "Hastings, St. Leonards, and Battle Advertiser," printed at Battle, 1855. The "Hastings and St. Leonards Times," by Isaac Parsons, printed at Rye, 1857. The "Hastings and St. Leonards Herald," 1861, by Isaac Parsons, Rye. The "Hastings and St. Leonards Observer," by J. H. Knight, at 34, High Street, Hastings, 1859 or 1860. The copyright of this was purchased by F. J. Parsons in 1865, and is now the well-known Newspaper published by F. J. Parsons, Ltd., Claremont. "Osborne's Hastings Paper" some time in the sixties. "Hastings and St. Leonards World," 1878. "Hastings and St. Leonards Guardian," 1874. "Randle and Jenner's Visitors' List," 1878. "East Sussex News," by Farncombe and Bates, 1855. "Bexhill Chronicle," 1889. "Bexhill Observer," 1896. "Sussex Daily

News," 1868. "Southern Weekly News," 1876. "Morning Argus," 1896. "Evening Argus," 1879. "Hastings and St. Leonards Evening Journal, by F. J. Parsons, 1889. "Hastings and St. Leonards Times," by Halley Stewart, 1877. "Hastings and St. Leonards Weekly Mail," 1898. The "Kentish Express," 1855. "Hastings and St. Leonards Chronicle," printed at Lewes, and upwards of 100 other Newspapers in the Counties of Sussex, Surrey and Kent.

The deaths of Mr. William Ransom, Mr. T. B. Brett, Mr. F. J. Parsons, and Mr. Maurice Sarsfield Walsh, for 34 years the Editor of the "Hastings and St. Leonards Observer," and Mr. Joseph Tendall, who for some years was proprietor of the "Hastings News," removed from our midst some of the older local Journalists, and Newspaper owners.

Ex-Alderman John Bray, of St. Leonards and Bexhill, was formerly the Editor of the "St. Leonards Advertiser," when owned by the late Mr. James Dorman. The late Mayor of Hastings, Alderman George Hutchings, J.P., was a Journalist for many years, conducting the "Hastings and St. Leonards Chronicle." The late Alderman C. H. Ball, was on the Observer staff, and was another old Press-Man," trained in the "Hastings and St. Leonards News" Office.

The writer of these notes has already set out in several Articles on the "Progress of the Observer," which appeared in the "Hastings and St. Leonards Observer" of August 13th, 20th, and 27th, 1904, the early struggles of this Journal, of which he was co-proprietor with the late Mr. F. J. Parsons, under the style of Parsons and Cousins. The "Hastings and St. Leonards News" was once a powerful newspaper, and its Editor, the late Mr. William Ransom, rigidly ignored the existence of the "Observer" for years, and in one of Mr. Walsh's Articles he made use of the historical words of the late Lord Beaconsfield in the House of Commons: "The time will come when you *will* hear me." Assuredly it did come. The rival editors became respected friends. When in 1877 Mr. Halley Stewart started the "Hastings and St. Leonards Times," the "Observer" had then two strong rivals in these papers.

The "News" and the "Mail and Times" after passing through several proprietorships have now ceased to exist as separate Newspapers; the Copyright in both having been purchased, and are now incorporated with the "Hastings and St. Leonards Pictorial Advertiser," owned by F. J. Parsons, Ltd., Claremont, Hastings, who are the proprietors of the "Hastings and St. Leonards Observer," the only weekly Newspaper at present printed and published in Hastings. An incomplete file of the Old "Hastings News" is kept in the Town Hall, the property of the Corporation.

During the writers' life in Hastings, covering 54 years, the following local Newspapers have ceased to exist.—The "St. Leonards Gazette" (Brett's); "Osborne's Hastings Paper"; "Hastings

and St. Leonards World" (Rev. Gurney); "Hastings and St. Leonards Guardian"; "Randle and Jenner's Visitors' List"; "Hastings and St. Leonards Evening Journal (F. J. Parsons); "Hastings and St. Leonards Mail and Times," and "Hastings and St. Leonards News."

18TH AND 19TH CENTURY FAMILIES CONNECTED WITH THE HISTORY OF HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS.

PRINCIPAL LANDOWNERS.

The Eversfield Family.	Sir Howard Elphinstone.
The Cornwallis Family.	James Burton (Founder of St. Leonards).
Earl of Chichester and the Pelham Family.	Decimus Burton.
Sir Godfrey Webster (Battle Abbey).	James Troup (Warrior Square Estate).
Edward Milward, Senior.	Vandeleur Benjamin Crake (Highlands Estate).
Edward Milward, Junior.	Frederick North.
Countess Waldegrave.	Patrick Francis Robertson.
Henry Sayer.	Rev. Wm. Carlisle Sayer-Milward.
Thomas Papillon (of Crowhurst)	
Wastel Brisco.	Sir Anchitel Ashburnham.
Wm. Drew Lucas-Shadwell.	

CLERICAL, LEGAL, AND MEDICAL.

CLERICAL.

Rev. Webster Whistler (St. Clement's).
„ G. G. Stonestreet (Halton).
„ F. Newnham.
„ John Goodge Foyster (St. Clement's and All Saints)
„ Henry Brereton Foyster (St. Clement's).
„ George Alfred Foyster (All Saints).
„ William Wallinger (St. Mary-in-the-Castle).
„ Thomas Vores (St. Mary-in-the-Castle).
„ John Parkin (Halton).
„ John White Tottenham.
„ H. Geldart.
„ Wm. Hickes Coppard.
„ Edward Peyton.
„ Wm. Whitear.

LEGAL.

John Phillips.
William Scrivens.
William Martin.
George Meadows (Town Clerk).
William Blackman Young (Registrar of County Court).
George J. Langham.
Fredrick Adolphus Langham (Magistrates' Clerk).
William P. Beecham.
Thomas Bilton.

MEDICAL.

Robert Batty.
John Satterley.
Dr. McCabe.
Dr. Duke.
Dr. Macness.

Dr. Moore.
 Dr. Rankin.
 Dr. Frederick Ticehurst.
 Dr. John Savery.
 Dr. Frederick Bagshawe.

Dr. D. Hoadley Gabb.
 Dr. Charles Ashenden.
 Dr. Trollope.
 Dr. J. W. Barnard.

PROFESSIONAL AND COMMERCIAL.

George Scrivens, Banker.	John Banks, Surveyor and Schoolmaster.
Edward Wenham, Banker.	James Barry, Librarian.
Smith, Banker.	Peter, Malaperte Powell, Librarian.
Hilder, Banker.	William Diplock, Librarian.
Harvey, Banker.	George Wooll, Print Seller.
Gill, Banker.	James, Rouse, Print Seller and Artist.
Tilden, Banker.	William Ransom, "Hastings News" and Printer.
Boykett Breeds, Banker and Merchant.	Jeudwine, Grocer.
Thomas Breeds, Brewer and Merchant.	Benjamin Tree, Librarian and Stationer.
Thomas James Breeds, Banker and Merchant.	Frederick Tree, senior, Builder and Contractor.
Edward Farncombe, Banker.	Stephen Putland, Builder, Contractor, and Merchant.
John Goldsworthy Shorter (Town Clerk).	C. F. Mott, Wine Merchant.
George Strickland (Corn Factor)	Deudney and Hurst, Brewers.
Thomas Thwaites (Merchant).	Matthew Fagg, Brewer.
George Clement, Land and Property Owner.	George Godfrey Gray, Wine Merchant.
Robert Deudney, Yeoman and Estate Agent.	Charles Pope Hutchins, Royal Marine Hotel.
Benjamin Carswell, Miller and Baker.	James Burfield, Brewer.
William Carswell, Swan Hotel.	Charles Burfield, Brewer.
Horatio Nelson Williams, Merchant.	Thomas Brown, Wine Merchant.
Will Ginner, Shipper and Coal Merchant.	James Bryant, Ironmonger.
James Emary, Castle Hotel.	Hugh Penfold, Ironmonger.
James Landsell, Builder and Property Owner.	Charles Duke, Breeches and Glove Maker.
James Rock, Carriage Builder.	William Chamberlain, Royal Victoria Hotel.
Alfred Amooore, Grocer.	W. L. Yates, Royal Oak Hotel.
William Amooore, Brewer.	James Notcutt, Draper.
Charles Amooore, Chemist.	George Curling Hope, Stationer.
Nicholas Wingfield.	John Howell, Builder and Timber Merchant.
Anthony Harvey.	Joseph Brown, Plumber and Decorator.
Thomas Ross, Drawing Master and Historian.	
Thomas B. Brett, "St. Leonards Gazette" and Historian.	

John Reeves, Leather Merchant.	Parsons and Cousins, "Hastings Observer" and Printers.
George Archibald Thorpe, Boot and Shoe Merchant.	Thomas Woodhams, Auctioneer
John Eaton, Auctioneer.	James Woodhams, Auctioneer.
Alexander Breeds, Auctioneer.	William Montague Glenister, Chief Constable.
Charles J. Womersley, Auctioneer.	William Andrews, Borough Surveyor.
Saul Bright, Draper.	

IN THE COACHING DAYS.

One of the most remarkable circumstances in connection with coaching is the comparatively short period in which its history is comprised. One might have reasonably thought that the exigencies of commerce, no less than those of private requirements, would, even in the earliest times, have demanded a system of communication as speedy as possible, and that some steps would have been taken to secure the desired end. Passing over all earlier attempts to organise road traffic, it would appear that 1659 saw the first stage-coach—that from Coventry—started. Later the Oxford coach, which did the journey from London to Oxford in two days, or about 3 miles an hour, and from London to Dover in 2 days and a half. In 1700, a week was required to go from London to York; and 2 days from London to Salisbury. But later on in the 18th Century, through the skill of coachmen and coach-builders and the employment of better horses, for the carrying of the mails, the speed was increased to the rate of 10 miles an hour.

In 1731, it appears by the "Collier Letters," coaches between London and Hastings only made the journey once a week.

The following is the copy of a card issued by the Proprietors of the "Regulator" Coach—1745:—"This fast coach will leave the Swan Inn, Hastings, at four o'clock on Monday mornings, arriving at Robertsbridge *the same day*, Sevenoaks the next, and London the third, returning to Hastings the three following days." It is not surprising to hear the old folks talk of their wills being made before they left for London, the fire laid overnight, the clink of the flint and steel, the breakfast before daylight, the many friends arriving with letters (to cheat the expensive post), and then the cavalcade with lanterns to the coach.

Barry's Guide of 1797, says:—"A stage-coach runs between London and Hastings every Monday, Thursday, and Saturday, throughout the year, and on Wednesday also, during the summer season—it sets out from the Swan Inn, Hastings, at five, and from the Bolt in Tun Inn, Fleet Street, London, at six in the morning; the two coaches meet at Tunbridge about noon, where they exchange passengers and parcels, and return home at night."

Powell's Guide of 1819 states:—"Two coaches leave the Swan and Crown Hotels daily at six and eight o'clock in the morning

during the summer season, and one from each Hotel daily, during winter. A coach also goes daily to Brighton, in the summer, and three times a week in the winter, passing through Lewes and Eastbourne; another coach also leaves twice a week for Rye, Romney, Hythe, Folkestone, and Dover, to Margate."

Ross's Guide of 1835, gives a list of the coaches then running:—The Express, The Royal Regulator, The Paragon, The Warrior, and The Despatch.



[Lent by Miss Clark.]

THE PARAGON COACH, 1835.

From original Block found in Ransom's Printing Office,
42, George Street.



Photo]

[F. J. Parsons. Ltd.]

ONE OF THE MOTOR COACHES.—1920.

With the opening of the railways the coaches disappeared one by one. For some years the Char-a-bancs were popular with the public for excursions in the country, until a few years ago the four-horse coach again came into public use, and several well-

appointed coaches were until recent years running in Hastings and St. Leonards to the various places of interest in the neighbourhood, and to the meets of the Foxhounds. The latest mode of travelling by swift motors and motor coaches, the latter carrying 20 passengers or more, and sometimes making trips covering 80 to 120 miles a day. A view of one of these latest motor coaches is given on page 286.

Swan Inn

HASTINGS AND LONDON
FLY VANS
AND
OLD-ESTABLISHED WAGGON,
TO THE
White Hart and Spur Inns, Boro'
By TILDEN SMITH.

VANS set out every Saturday, Tuesday, and Thursday Evenings, from the Crown and Swan Coach Offices, Hastings, arrive at the White Hart Inn, Boro' every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, A WAGGON sets out every Saturday and arrives at the Spur Inn every Wednesday

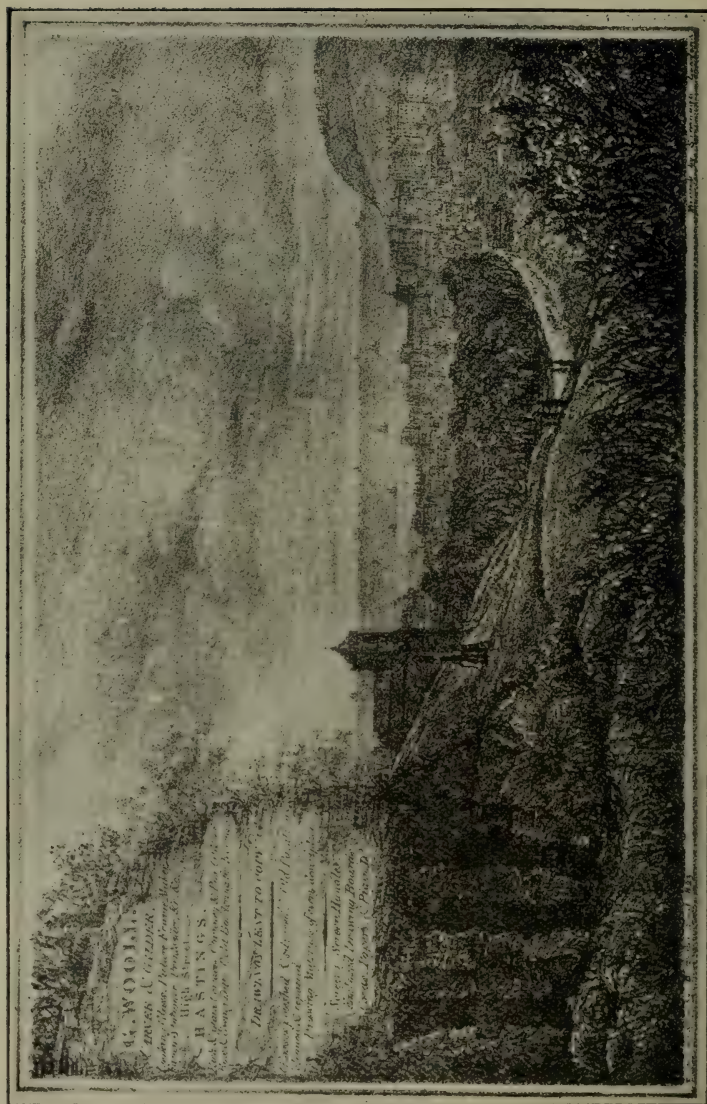
Mr G L Wooll *Cwt. 9 1/2 lb. --- 2 1/2 d.*
1 Case Carriage *1 0 7 10*
 Paid out
 Portage
 Cartage....
 Warehouse

July 6th 1826

FROM HASTINGS TO LONDON,

[From the Author's Collection,

The above is a copy of an old waybill for goods for Mr. G. L. Wooll, Printseller, Carver, Gilder, Stationer, and Publisher of Guide Books, 5, High Street, Hastings. A view of a Fly Van is given on page 175.



Dracena on stone by G. Tyller.

A TRADE CARD OF LAST CENTURY.

Lent by Mr. James Castello.

MR. G. WOOLL'S TRADE CARD—1823.

This is a specimen of an elaborate trade card commonly used by business men in the early and middle part of the last century. This one is reproduced from the original—size 8 inches by 5 inches. It is given here, firstly, for its novelty, and secondly, by reason of G. Wooll's name frequently occurring in this book. He was a print seller, and published many views of Hastings, and interesting guide book, mentioned on page 135, and his name is well-known to collectors. He first opened business at No. 5, High Street, and afterwards at 43, High Street (now Reeves' antique furniture shop). The inscription is represented on the "Minnis Rock," which still exists at the top of the path leading to High Wickham, and shewing All Saints' Church, the slopes of High Wickham, Old London Road, High Street, and the Old Town, including St. Clement's Church, the Castle Hill, and the sea with shipping in the distance.

POPULATION OF HASTINGS.

Extracted from the Registers of Hastings Parishes by the late
W. A. Greenhill, M.D., Oxon.

Published in Suss. Arch. Coll., vol. XIV. to 1861, thence by census.

A.D. 1571	1,627	A.D. 1831	10,231
1601	1,601	1841	11,789
1631	2,083	1851	17,621
1671	2,186	1861	23,443
1701	1,835	1871	29,289
1731	1,636	1881	42,256
1771	2,000	1891	52,340
1801	3,175	1901	65,528
1811	4,025	1911	61,145
1821	6,300		

SCENES AT BROTHERHOOD AND GUESTLING, AT
HASTINGS, ON WEDNESDAY, 8TH SEPTEMBER, 1920.

[From the "*Hastings and St. Leonards Observer*" of September 11th, 1920.]

Two snapshots of Wednesday's procession at the gathering of the Ancient Brotherhood and Guestling at Hastings. (1) Rev. H. B. Cole (Mayor's chaplain) and the Rural Dean, Rev. Canon T. W. Cook. Alderman R. W. Mitchell, J.P., and Mr. G. M. Freeman, K.C., are each side of the Bishop of Lewes and are dressed in their coronation robes. (2) The head of the procession, Earl Beauchamp, K.G., Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, and the Speaker and Mayor of Hastings, Councillor W. Perrins, behind are Mr. Percy Idle, Town Clerk of Hastings, Mr. Walter Dawes and Mr. E. R. Knockner, solicitors to the Ports, in the next row are Earl Beauchamp's aide-de-camp and the Earl's eldest son.

As I have written much in another part of this volume of the history of the Cinque Ports, it is most fitting that the scenes at Hastings on the occasion of the meeting in this the Premier Cinque Port, of the Courts of Brotherhood and Guestling for the first time in the long period of 260 years or in the days when Charles II. was King. The Monarchy having been re-established on May the 29th, 1660, after the resignation of Richard Cromwell, the Protector.

It has fallen to the lot of Councillor William Perrins, J.P., the Mayor of Hastings and Speaker of the Cinque Ports, of taking part in more than one Royal function, for during his mayoralty he had the honour of receiving King George V., who visited Hastings on August 30th, 1918, to see his son and to inspect the Cadets of the R.A.F., who were stationed here in large numbers, and was quartered here with his regiment. On this occasion the Mayor mentioned to His Majesty that he (the Mayor) had the honour of receiving the only reigning Monarch who had visited Hastings since King John (1199-1215), which interested His Majesty. Again, on July 7th, 1920, the Mayor had the honour of receiving Princess Marie Louise at Hastings, the occasion being the opening of Quarry House, St. Leonards, which is established as a House of Rest for Soldiers and Sailors on furlough. On 21st of May, 1920, the Mayor was elected Speaker of the Brotherhood and Guestling, and on July 18th, 1920, he received Lord Beauchamp, the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, at Hastings, who joined with him in paying an official visit to the Church of the Holy Trinity.

These striking events during his term of office have been consummated by arranging a meeting of the Courts Brotherhood and Guestling in this Ancient Cinque Port. This scene was one to be remembered. Besides the Brethren, there were twenty-two Mayors (and Mayoresses) in their picturesque robes, accompanied by the Mace Bearers of the respective towns, there were also many Councillors and several of the Barons of the Cinque Ports in their

rich and gorgeous robes; the respective Chaplains attended. Altogether the sight was quaint, historical and interesting, and large crowds witnessed the proceedings. The deputations met at the Town Hall, where they robed.

The Town Crier and two Mace Bearers in the foreground. The Mayor is seen following—Lord Beauchamp had not arrived on the scene. The venerable Town Clerk of Rye is on the left of the Mayor. Mr. Percy Idle, the Town Clerk, is seen on the steps directing the proceedings.

The day commenced with the Town Crier reading the Proclamation calling the assembly together, and the roll was called of the representatives of the Cinque Ports, Ancient Towns, and Members corporate who had attended in reply to the Speaker's summons.



THE PROCESSION LEAVING THE TOWN HALL.

The proceedings were presided over by the Mayor of Hastings, supported by the Lord Warden (Earl Beauchamp, K.G.), and conducted by Mr. Walter Dawes and Mr. R. E. Knocker, Solicitors to the Ports. The representatives for Hastings were Aldermen J. N. Collins, J.P., and Fellows, Councillors Dalton and Harris, with the Mayor's Chaplain, the Town Clerk (Mr. Percy Idle, M.B.E.), and the Clerk of the Peace (Mr. W. Carless, J.P.). Other towns represented were: Sandwich (Cinque Port), Dover (Cinque Port), Romney (Cinque Port). In the latter instance the Deputy-Mayor attended, the Mayor having met with an accident. Hythe (Cinque Port), Rye (Ancient Town), Winchelsea (Ancient Town), Deal (limb of

Sandwich), Ramsgate (limb of Sandwich), Folkestone (limb of Dover), Margate (limb of Dover), Lydd (limb of Romney), Tenterden (limb of Rye). Faversham did not send representatives. Rye was represented by the Mayor (Councillor J. L. Deacon, J.P.), Aldermen Burnham, J.P., and Masters, Councillors Gafford and Thompson, with the Deputy Town Clerk (Capt. E. P. Dawes, T.D.), Mr. J. Adams, J.P., and Mr. F. Jarrett (Coronation Barons), Borough Recorder (Mr. Slade Butler), and the Vicar (the Rev. A. P. Howes). The other Coronation Barons were Alderman R. W. Mitchell, J.P. (Hastings), and Mr. G. M. Freeman, K.C. (Winchelsea). Amongst the large audience were :—Aldermen A. W. Chesterfield, J.P., J. Pelham, J.P., B. H. W. Tree, J.P., Councillors Dr.



THE PROCESSION THROUGH ROBERTSON STREET TO HOLY TRINITY CHURCH.

G. G. Gray, J.P., Tyldesley, Matthews, H. N. Collins, Meads, Reed, H. Samson, J.P., Miss Lile, H. Groome, Watts, Wood, A. G. Ginner, Macdougall, Morgan, Shoesmith, the Borough Accountant (Mr. G. R. Butterworth), Borough Engineer (Mr. P. H. Palmer), Borough Electrical Engineer (Mr. Russel F. Ferguson), Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Scarlyn Wilson), Deputy Town Clerk (Mr. T. Wood), the Chief Constable (Mr. F. James), etc. Amongst the Mayors and Deputies present by invitation were those of Gillingham, Seaford, Pevensey, Brighton, Lewes, Eastbourne, Tunbridge Wells, Hove,

Worthing, and Bexhill. Viscount Elmley, Earl Beauchamp's son, was present at all the functions.

The names of the Deputies having been called, the Mayor appointed as his chaplain for the day the Rev. Hugh Basil Cole, M.C., and the company proceeded to Holy Trinity Church. The sermon was preached by The Lord Bishop of Lewes, C.M.G. Some striking words fell from the Lord Bishop in his sermon, when he said the Speaker had sent him a book bearing on the subject of what the proceedings of the day meant, and he wanted to gather some lesson from their past history to serve them in these very modern days. After reading the book the Speaker had sent him, he had remarked to a friend that the history of the Cinque Ports was part of the History of England, to which the friend retorted that it was much more than that, for it was in fact *the history*. That he found absolutely true. He felt that they must look back with pride upon their history, and *he ventured to say that it was history which should be taught in every Kent and Sussex school, so that the boys and girls might say with truth, "We have heard with our ears, our fathers have told us what works Thou didst in their days, in the times of old."* On hearing these words, I was reminded that a few days before they were uttered I received a letter from Mr. Charles A. Farmer, that clever journalist who was attached to the staff of the *Argus* and whom we all missed when he left us, in which he said: "I read with pleasure of your work in getting out a new edition of your 'Hastings of Bygone Days.' Not only was it an inexhaustible source of pleasure to me in my happy Hastings days, but it remains a much used friend. Only on Sunday I was turning it over, and it is one of those local histories which may be dipped into at any point, in any mood, and never fail to yield a picture recalling fond scenes or a good yarn of the old, old town. In many towns now—at Birmingham, for instance—*local history and topography is a subject in the schools, that made me wonder why the subject should still be neglected in Hastings*. If we teach our young people more about the towns they live in they will grow up happier, prouder, and more contented citizens." I leave this question to the Education Committee. Did it ever strike my readers how incongruous it seems that a native of East Anglia should become a historian of Hastings. My dear young readers, I had not lived long in my adopted town before I loved it for its historic associations, its beautiful surroundings, and its health-giving air. I sought a "hobby," and I found it in the study of its history. It is fascinating, and I wished others to share the results of my "hobby," and I hope the picturesque scenes and ceremonials associated with the Courts of Brotherhood and Guestling which assembled at Hastings through the instrumentality of its Mayor will lead others to dive into its meaning. The Cinque Ports were the providers of our Navy, and from the Kent and Sussex iron foundries the guns and ammunition were produced and the hardy race of seamen to man the ships of war were bred on these shores.

At the close of the church service the assembly returned to the Town Hall to transact the business of the day. This having been done, the following quaint Proclamation was made by the Senechal :—

“ My Lord Warden, and all Mayors, Barons, Combarons, Jurats, ladies, and all others who have been bidden by the Right Worshipful the Speaker, and that be now here present, are warned to hie yourselves to the Masonic Hall, St. Leonards-on-Sea by 1.30 of the clock, and there partake of such refreshment and repast as be provided and ordained for your comfort and solace.—God Save the King ! The Cinque Ports ! and Two Antient Towns ! ”

The important privileges granted to the Cinque Ports in return for their help in providing ships and men in times of need are set out in the Customal (or, in other words, the Old Laws and Customs of Hastings.) These may be found in the Public Library on application to the Librarian.

One of the most coveted privileges of the Barons was the right to attend the Coronation of the Kings and Queens. (See “ Hastings of Bygone Days.”)

LIST OF CORONATIONS AND NAMES OF THE BARONS WHO ATTENDED.

RICHARD III.

Henry Hall	Henry Bencour
John Philpot	John Edridge

JAMES I.

Richard Lyfe	— Mawe
Martin Lyfe	William Byshop
James Lasher	Richard French

Richard Ellys, Junr.

JAMES II.

Sir Denny Ashburnham	John Ashburnham
Thomas Munn	Benjamin Bathurst, Kt.
Richard Watts	William Hollands

(Cole, p. 179, gives Capt. Ed. Milward in place of Bathurst.)

WILLIAM AND MARY.

John Ashburnham	Thomas Munni
	John Munn

ANNE.

Hon. W. Ashburnham	John Poultney
	William Ashburnham.

GEORGE I.

Hon. Bertram Ashburnham Joseph Martin, Kt.
 Archibald Hutcheson.

GEORGE II.

Hon. Thomas Townsend. James Pelham
 Sir W. Ashburnham, Bart. Thomas Pelham
 Edward Dine John Collier

GEORGE III.

Edward Milward William Ashburnham
 John Pelham Luke Spencer
 Richard Rideout Rose Fuller

GEORGE IV.

Hon. Wm. Henry John Scott James Dawkins
 Edward Milward

WILLIAM IV. AND VICTORIA.

None.

EDWARD VII.

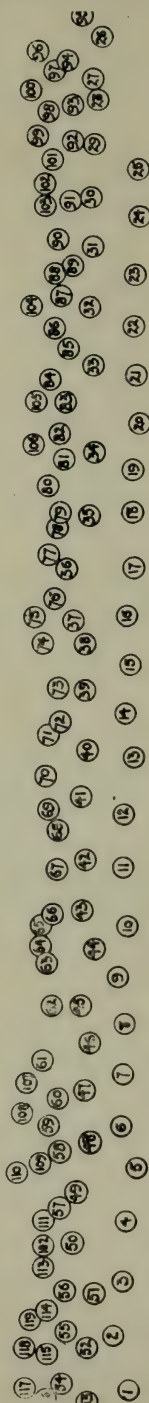
Frederick Adolphus Langham.

GEORGE V.

Robert W. Mitchell.

Other Coronation Barons who attended the Ceremonies held on September 8th, 1920, representing Rye, were Joseph Adams, J.P., now a resident of St. Leonards, and Frank Jarrett. For Winchelsea G. M. Freeman, K.C.

COURTS OF BROTHERHOOD AND GUESTLING.—Key to Group of those present.—See Inset.



FRONT ROW—LEFT TO RIGHT.

(1) Alderman Sir Stephen Penfold, J.P., Folkestone. (2) Alderman John William Woodall, Ramsgate, Baron of the Cinque Ports. (3) Mr. Joseph Adams, J.P., Rye, Baron of the Cinque Ports. (4) Mr. Frank Jarrett, Rye, Baron of the Cinque Ports. (5) The Hon. Hugh P. Lygar. (6) The Mayor of Gillingham. (7) Councillor R. G. Wood, J.P., Mayor of Folkestone. (8) Councillor Thomas Steed Bayly, Mayor of Deal. (9) Councillor J. L. Deacon, J.P., Mayor of Rye. (10) Alderman E. Prior, J.P., Deputy Mayor of New Romney. (11), Councillor G. C. Solley, Mayor of Sandwich. (12) The Rt. Hon. Earl Beauchamp, The Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports. (13) Councillor William Perrins, J.P., The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Hastings and Speaker of the Cinque Ports. (14) The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Lewes. (15) Councillor C. E. Beaufoy, Mayor of Dover. (16) Councillor C. D. Twopeny, Mayor of Hythe. (17) A. Osman, Esq., Mayor of Winchelsea. (18) Councillor R. W. Philpott, Mayor of Ramsgate. (19) Alderman C. E. Doughty, J.P., Mayor of Margate. (20) Alderman Charles E. Bass, Mayor of Lydd. (21) Councillor L. K. Davis, Mayor of Tenterden. (22) Alderman R. W. Mitchell, J.P., M.A., Hastings, Baron of the Cinque Ports. (23) G. M. Freeman, Esq., K.C. Jurat of Winchelsea, Baron of the Cinque Ports. (24) Alderman W. J. Solomon, Deal, Baron of the Cinque Ports. (25) Mr. Wm. Booth Reeve, M.B.E., J.P., Margate, Baron of the Cinque Ports.

SECOND ROW—RIGHT TO LEFT.

(26) Councillor A. G. Ginner, Hastings. (27) Mr. J. Moore, Chairman U.D.C., Seaford (Limb of Hastings). (28) Councillor H. A. Tildesley, Hastings. (29) Councillor W. A. Matthews, Hastings. (30) Mayor of Tunbridge Wells. (31) Mayor of Eastbourne. (32) Mayor of Lewes. (33) Mayor of Brighton. (34) Mr. W. Hills, Clerk of the Peace, Margate. (35) Mr. A. B. Clarke, Town Clerk, Ramsgate. (36) Councillor R. J. Barwick, Dover. (37) Alderman J. W. Bussey, Dover. (38) Rev. Canon T. W. Cook, M.A., Hastings. (39) Rev. H. B. Cole, M.A., Chaplain to Mayor of Hastings. (40) Mr. R. E. Knoch, Town Clerk of Dover. (41) Mr. Walter Dawes, Town Clerk of Rye and Winchelsea. (42) Mr. Percy Idle, M.B.E., Town Clerk of Hastings. (43) Mr. S. W. L. N. Watts, Deputy Town Clerk of Sandwich. (44) Mr. W. Lamcraft, Town Clerk of New Romney. (45) Capt. E. P. Dawes, T. D., Assistant Town Clerk of Rye. (46) Slade Butler, Esq., Recorder of Rye. (47) Mr. C. Hayles, Clerk of the Peace, Rye. (48) Rev. A. P. Howes, M.A., R.D., Chaplain to Mayor of Rye. (49) Mayor of Hove. (50) Mayor of Worthing. (51) Councillor Miss E. J. Weston,

Folkestone. (52) Alderman W. Dunk, J.P., Folkestone. (53) Alderman A. E. Pepper, J.P., Folkestone.

THIRD ROW—LEFT TO RIGHT.

(54) Councillor Mrs. M. L. Turner, Folkestone. (55) Alderman G. H. Gray, Mayor of Bexhill. (56) Alderman J. W. Chapman, Ramsgate. (57) Alderman T. S. Chayney, Ramsgate. (58) Mr. A. F. Kidson, Town Clerk of Folkestone. (59) Alderman H. S. Chapman, Deal. (60) Mr. D. A. Daniels, Town Clerk of Deal. (61) Mr. W. Wilson Grantham, Recorder of Deal. (62) Councillor P. J. Small, Sandwich. (63) Councillor I. J. Caspell, Sandwich. (66) Councillor C. E. Hallett, Sandwich. (67) Councillor H. S. Watts, Sandwich. (68) Aide de Camp to the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports. (69) Mr. William Carless, M.A., J.P., Clerk of the Peace, Hastings. (70) Alderman J. N. Collins, J.P., Hastings. (71) Alderman W. J. Fellows, Hastings. (72) Alderman C. J. Sellens, Dover. (73) Councillor H. W. Harris, Hastings. (74) Councillor E. Dalton, Hastings. (77) Mr. B. E. Drake, Town Clerk of Hythe. (78) Mr. N. Prentice, Acting Town Clerk of Winchelsea. (79) Councillor R. Morgan, Dover. (80) Alderman J. G. White, Hythe. (81) Mr. A. M. Freeman, Jurat of Winchelsea. (82) Alderman W. E. Ellis, New Romney. (83) Alderman S. Shea, Margate. (84) Councillor E. Geering, New Romney. (85) Alderman W. H. White, J.P., Margate. (86) Councillor H. I. Bines, Margate. (87) Councillor P. H. R. Vener, Margate. (88) Councillor E. F. Bath, New Romney. (89) Mr. G. G. Henshall, Whitwell, Town Clerk of Lydd. (90) Col. J. Munn Race, T.D., Town Clerk of Tenterden. (91) Councillor C. A. Molyneux, Hythe. (92) Councillor A. Blackman, J.P., Hastings. (93) Rev. R. B. Pyper, Beakesbourne (Limb of Hastings). (94) Mr. J. F. Hickman, Pevensey (Limb of Hastings). (95) Councillor Balcombe, Lydd. (96) Councillor H. Groome, Hastings. (97) Councillor C. G. Ridgway, Hastings. (98) Councillor H. N. Collins, Hastings. (99) Councillor W. Meads, Hastings. (100) Councillor G. G. Gray, L.L.D., J.P., Hastings. (101) Alderman J. Pelham, J.P., Hastings. (102) Alderman B. H. W. Tree, J.P., Hastings. (103) Alderman E. Armitage Hocking, J.P., Hastings. (104) Councillor W. V. Pennefather, New Romney. (107) Councillor A. W. Lambert, Deal. (108) Councillor W. R. Turk, Deal. (109) Councillor Gafford, Rye. (110) Alderman F. H. J. Hayward, Deal. (111) Councillor Thompson, Rye. (112) Councillor T. Wotton, Ramsgate. (113) Alderman Burnham, J.P., Rye. (114) Alderman J. N. Masters, Rye. (115) Alderman A. W. Chesterfield, J.P., Hastings. (116) Mr. J. K. Butterworth, Borough Accountant, Hastings. (117) Mr. R. F. Ferguson, Borough Electrical Engineer, Hastings. (118) Councillor Watts, Hastings. (119) Councillor Wood, Hastings.

THE HISTORIC MEETING OF THE ANCIENT COURTS BROTHERHOOD AND GUESTLING AT HASTINGS, 8TH SEPTEMBER, 1920.

Specially reproduced for "Hastings of Bygone Days—and the Present." See Key to inset on opposite page.



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MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION OF HASTINGS IN 1830.

The following is a copy of a document some unknown friend sent to me :—

Mayor :—Charles Steevens Crouch.

Deputy-Mayor :—Frederick North.

Jurats :—

Edward Milward	David Gill.
John Goldsworthy Shorter	John Williams, Junr.
Walter Crouch	William Ball
John Williams	Nathaniel Crouch
William Scrivens	Thomas Foster
John Hannay	

Freemen :—

Revd. D. Coppard	George Scrivens
Edward Evitt	Richard Ball
Thomas Morfee, Senr.	James Patrick Murray
James Crouch	John Pollard Crouch
Richard Diplock	Thomas Fautley Bossom
John Phillips	Thomas Morfee, Junr.
George Kent	Henry Williams
John Hide	William Ellis
John Diplock	James Winter
Edward Ball	William Standen
Edward Kent	William Phillips
John G. Shorter, Junr.	Jas. Edwd. Ferguson Murray

The one and only Freeman at the present time is Lord Beatty, Admiral of the Fleet, who received the Freedom at the hands of the then Mayor, Councillor Arthur Blackman, J.P., on the 30th of July, 1919, amidst a scene of enthusiasm which will be long remembered by those who witnessed the quaint and memorable ceremony.

THE EMPRESS EUGENE.

The name by which she was most generally referred to, and who died on July 11th, 1920, aged 94, was the widow of the late Napoleon III, and the last Empress of the French. Her death recalls the fact that two days after the French Revolution she had to make her escape from France and it so happened she was assisted by an Englishman named Colonel Sir John Burgoyne, who brought her and her young son in his Yacht the *Gazelle*, and landed her on the beach at Hastings to find asylum in England. At the time this occurred I was connected with the "Hastings Observer," and as a notetaker was soon at the scene, but found that the Empress and her son had repaired to the Royal Marine

Hotel, Pelham Place (then kept by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pope Hutchings), as her residence. She occupied a suite of rooms at the east end of the Hotel until she left for Chislehurst. The Empress, as we now know, never forgot the chivalrous way in which Col. Sir John Burgoyne came to her assistance in the time of stress and danger. It was stated in the newspaper reports of her death that she had remembered him in her last will. The Royal Marine Hotel was on the site now occupied by the Cinema de Luxe, and as stated elsewhere, I personally dispersed the contents of the hotel by auction prior to its demolition.

THE BIRTH OF ROBERTSON STREET.

It may be interesting to my readers to record that this street, the principal business thoroughfare in Hastings, is one of the youngest. After the clearing of the "America Ground" (fully described in pages 210 to 220) it was in 1850 that Robertson Street was commenced, and the occupiers in 1852 were as follows:—Nos. 1, 2 and 3, had no building thereon; No. 4 occupied by Polhill, a Pork Butcher; No. 5, by Robinson Funnell, Tea Dealer and Provision Merchant from High Street; No. 6, by Prideaux and Co.; No. 7 by James Smith, Perfumer; No. 8, not built; No. 9, Edward Pierce, Circulating Library; No. 10, not built; No. 11, Thomas Weeks, Tailor and James Kenyon, Railway and Commercial Hotel; No. 12, Thomas Griffin, News Vendor; No. 13, Henry Hibling, Boot and Shoe Retailer, and James Meadows, Fruiterer and Seedsman; No. 14, John Lye, Linen Draper; No. 15, Thomas Jager, Childbed Linen Warehouse; No. 16, William Wakeman, Chemist; No. 17, George Curling Hope, Berlin Wool Warehouse; No. 18, Ebenezer Dobell, Jeweller; Nos. 19 to 23, not built; No. 24, Royal Standard, George Lindfield (now the Sussex Wine Stores); No. 25, this space is occupied by the opening to the back of Robertson Terrace. Nos. 26 to 37, not built. The above are on the Sea side of the street, and now covered by smaller Shops to Judge's corner. No. 38, now Bateman's, Occulist, was Diplock's Library, commenced in 1853; Nos. 39 to 52, not built; Mr. James Notcutt, Draper, who is still living, seems to have come from 60, George Street to Robertson Street, about 1852, but I am not sure of the number.

The site of Robertson Street was used as a Rope Walk (see view page 213, and Plan on page 211). Carlisle Parade was also commenced in 1850. The first stone of Holy Trinity Church was laid in 1857.

So far as I know, Ebenezer Dobell's business is still carried on by his sons, but Mr. James Notcutt is the only one living of the first occupants of Robertson Street. It may therefore be said that to the birth of this important street we are indebted to His Majesty's Department of Woods and Forests and to the late

Patrick F. Robertson, a former M.P. for the Borough, whose portrait is given on page 219.

I have personally seen Robertson Street absolutely re-peopled during my residence of fifty-four years.

EAST SUSSEX PLACE NAMES.

By AN OLD-FASHIONED MAN.

I have come across an intensely interesting little printed brochure under the above title setting out the local pronunciation of the towns and villages around Hastings by the "natives," from which the following is an extract :—

PRONUNCIATION.

Place.	Right Sussex.	Purely Local	Avoid at all costs.
Ashburnham	Ash-burn-ham		Ash-burn-ham
Bodiam	Boddy'on Bodi Bodjum the same as in some body		Bo-dyam
Bodle Street	Bodel Street as in Boot		Bodel
Burwash		Burrish	
Chiddingly	Chiddinglie, accent on the ly as in lie down		
Crowborough		Crowburr	
Dallington	Dollington as in child's doll		Dall as in to dally. This is painfully wrong.
Eastbourne	Eastborne, heavy accent on borne as in Bournemouth		East-bu n
Etchingham	Etching-ham heavy accent on ham		Etch-ingham
Fairlight		Fair-lye	
Hailsham		Helsum	
Heathfield		Hefful	
Hellingly	Hellinglie, heavy accent on lie		
Herstmonceux or Hurstmonceux	Herst-mun-soo heavy accent on soo Mind it is soo to rhyme with moo of a cow and not so as in so-and-so		Herst-mon-so
Northiam		Norgem	
Pevensey		Pemsey	
Polegate	Polegate, heavy accent on gate		Pole-get
Sedlescombe	Sellscum		
Udimore	Uddy-more as in muddy		You-di-more
West-ham	West-ham, accent on ham, h very aspirate		Westtam

There are several other names further away not given here. The Compiler's name does not appear, but I understand it to be a member of a very old Sussex family, and who is well known in this district.—Author.

ABOUT THE RYE AND ASHFORD BRANCH RAILWAY.

From the "Brighton Guardian, Rape of Hastings Journal, and Sussex General Advertiser," 1844, price 5d., lent by Mr. J. A. Rae.

Report on above date, February 28th, 1844, at Hastings Town, to promote a railway from Headcorn, Tenterden and Rye to Hastings, there being some opposition by the Brighton Railway Co. against it. The meeting was presided over by Dr. McCabe, the Mayor of Hastings, and it may be of interest to readers to give the names of some well-known men who were present:—Frederick North, W. Lucas-Shadwell, F. W. Staines, Esquires, Rev. J. Parkin, F. Smith, J. G. Shorter, J. Phillips, W. Scrivens, G. Scrivens, Wastel Brisco, J. G. Langham, H. Penfold, C. Duke, Anthony Harvey, Thos. Ross, H. Thwaites, Will Ginner, Bromley, H. Bishop, H. N. Williams, E. Strickland, S. Putland, H. Southall, S. Duke, Geo. Clement, B. F. Smith, Burfield, C. Deudney, H. Dunk, Boykett Breeds, Hurst, C. Hickes (Mayor of Rye), Captain Moneyppenny, Major Curteis (Rye), Jeremiah Smith, Messrs. Banks, Plomley, Vidler, Chatterton, H. Brasier, T. S. Pix, Rev. W. West, Rev. Dr. Buckland, Tilden Smith, James Hilder, sen., John Hilder, Rev. Wm. Simpson, W. D. Cooper, Beacham, Jennings, and Mr. Shooebridge, Mayor of Tenterden. This list comprises the leading men of the respective towns over 70 years ago. It was Dr. McCabe, the then Mayor, who discovered the spring of mineral water in the Alexandra Park, near Buckshole Reservoir, with which his name is still connected.



CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE OF EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF HASTINGS AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD.

I gratefully acknowledge the assistance rendered by Mr. Alfred Bryant (a native of Hastings), living at Enfield, in the compilation of this portion.—AUTHOR.

- 55 B.C. Landing of Cæsar.
- 50 A.D. Arvirgus fortifies Hastings (Dover Chron.).
- 755. First mention of Hastings in history in a Charter granted by Offa.
- 924. Mint established by Athelstan, discontinued about the time of Stephen.
- 1066. Battle of Hastings. The Castle either built at this time, or re-fortified. Robert Count of Eu appointed Governor.
- 1087. Consecration of Battle Abbey.
- 1094. William II. assembled 20,000 men at Hastings for an expedition against France; the design being abandoned, the men were dispersed.
- 1191. Priory of Austin Canons of the Holy Trinity founded about this time
- 1200. Winchelsea and Rye added to the Cinque Ports, under the style of "Antient Towns."
 - Hospital of St. Mary Magdalen founded about this time, and greatly enlarged in 1292 by Petronilla de Cham. Her deed of gift of land is the oldest document possessed by the Corporation.
- 1225. Castle and Rape of Hastings given to Peter Count of Savoy.
- 1226. Expedition of Hubert de Burgh, Warden of the Ports, against the French.
- 1260. Battle of St. Mahe, a Naval Tournament between the seamen of the Cinque Ports and the French.
- 1264. Cinque Ports Barons in Parliament.
- 1264. Serious disturbances between the Portsmen and the men of Yarmouth.
- 1287. Winchelsea destroyed by the sea.
- 1294. Expedition to recover Guienne from Philip, King of France.
- 1300. All Saints Church built about this time on what is supposed to have been the site of an older church.
- 1325. Great inundation of the sea, by which the parishes of St. Michael's and St. Peter's are supposed to have been overwhelmed.
- 1329. First serious descent of the French on the coast since the period of the Norman Conquest; the town plundered and burnt.
- 1331. The Castle having been abandoned as a place of defence, the Dean and Chapter of St. Mary's obtain permission to enclose and build their dwellings within it.

- 1347. Siege of Calais—the Ports sent 105 ships and 2,140 men; of these Hastings provided 5 ships and 96 men.
- 1378. Descent of the French on the South Coast; repulsed at Winchelsea by the Abbot of Battle. Rye and Hastings plundered and burnt. The Ports retaliated the following year by sacking and burning several towns on the coast of Normandy.
- 1379. St. Clements Church destroyed and subsequent division of Hastings into three Parishes.
- 1380. St. Clements Church built on its present site about this time. The former Church stood further to the south and was destroyed by the sea.
- 1392. Earliest record of proceedings of Court of Brodhull or Brotherhood.
- 1427. John Morton appointed Rector of All Saints; he subsequently became Lord Chancellor, and was made Cardinal in 1487.
- 1430. Hastings Priory removed to Warbleton.
- 1436. New Church of All Saints built.
- 1439. Camber Castle built.
- 1538. Battle Abbey conferred on Sir Anthony Browne.
- 1572. French Protestants come to Rye.
- 1573. Queen Elizabeth visits Rye, Winchelsea and Northiam.
- 1586. Twenty vessels fitted out at Hastings to take part against the Spanish Armada.
Henry Eolks executed at Tyburn for forging the Queen's sign manual to a presentation to the Rectory of All Saints.
- 1588. Charter of Incorporation granted by Queen Elizabeth, and first Mayor chosen.
The stone-beach with revenues of Jesus Altar and Chantries presented to the Corporation.
- 1591. The Castle and Honour of Hastings purchased by Sir T. Pelham.
- 1597. The Pier, the construction of which was commenced in 1596, totally destroyed on November 1st of this year.
- 1604. The Hospital of St. Mary Magdalen disused as such, and the revenues given to the deserving poor.
- 1619. Parker's Endowed School founded.
- 1642. Camber Castle dismantled.
- 1657. The first house in the Suburbs (George Street) built about this time.
- 1673. Charles II. visits Rye.
- 1695. An Ordinance passed compelling Widows and Bachelors to pay a tax of one shilling yearly.
- 1697. An Ordinance against going to sea or fishing on Sunday. In 1604 fish was not allowed to be sold to London Fishmongers.

- 1700. Town Hall built in High Street at expense of Peter Gott and John Pulteney ; two years later, the old Hall in Court House Street was pulled down, and a Gaol erected on its site.
- 1708. Saunders' Charity Schools endowed.
- 1720. French and Dutch fire on the town.
- 1725. George I. visits Rye.
- 1731. Outbreak of small-pox at Hastings (many deaths).
- 1736. The "Custumal" and Book of Records of time of Edward IV. lost or purposely destroyed.
- 1736. George II. visits Rye.
- 1754. Dutch ship Amsterdam wrecked at Bulverhythe.
- 1759. Two Hastings fishermen executed for Piracy ; ten years later four others were executed for the same offence.
- 1760. A Battery erected near the Fishmarket ; dismantled in 1817, and demolished in 1842, when the site was given to the Corporation, to whom it had originally belonged.
- 1770. The Parishes of All Saints and St. Clements united in one Rectory.
- 1784. Great mortality from an epidemic of Small-Pox in Hastings.
- 1790. Dr. M. Bailey first recommended patients to Hastings.
- 1791. Marine Parade commenced ; completed as far as Pelham Place 1812.
- 1791. The first Bank established in the town by Tilden, Shadwell, Hilder, Harvey & Gill.
- 1791. Barry's Library (at first Stell's) opened.
- 1796. Capture of a vessel off the town by a French Privateer ; re-captured a few hours after by fishermen and volunteers.
- 1800. About this time the iron trade of Sussex began to be discontinued for want of fuel.
- 1805. Croft Chapel (Independent) built. The first dissenting place of worship in Hastings. Rev. R. Simmons first minister.
- 1805. The enlargement of the town begins about this time. " The Croft " sold in plots for building a class of houses for the accommodation of visitors.
- 1805. Martello Towers built along the coast.
- 1806. Duke of Wellington in command of troops here.
- 1812. Marine Parade completed.
- 1818. The " Castle " Hotel built on the site of a thatched house which had for many years been a gin shop.
- 1820. Pelham Place, Breeds Place, and Castle Street begun, completed 1825.
- 1823. A new Town Hall erected on the site of the old one in High Street, the lower part of the building used as a market.

1823. The Barracks at Halton demolished and the site sold for building.

A Chapel built in Waterloo Place by the Wesleyans, afterwards used as a British School.

Bridge at the Priory re-constructed.

The Crown laid claim to the "America Ground," and gave the squatters thereon notice to quit; in 1836 those who had not complied with this notice were forcibly expelled, and the ground laid waste.

1824. Excavations at Hastings Castle under Mr. W. Moss.

1825. First stone of the new Church of St. Mary-in-the-Castle laid by the Countess of Chichester; building completed in 1828; first Incumbent, Rev. W. Wallinger.

1828. The new town of St. Leonards commenced by Mr. James Burton.

1828. Last iron furnace at Ashburnham ceased.

1829. (October 26.) Opening of Victoria Hotel.

1830. A Public Dispensary established in High Street.

1831. (Sept. 8.) Foundation stone of St. Leonards Church laid by Princess Sophia of Gloucester, building completed in 1833 at sole expense of Mr. J. Burton.

1831. Literary Institution established.

1834. White Rock removed, and Cliff cut away to form a road.

1834. Duchess of Kent and Princess Victoria at St. Leonards.

1835. Last bridge at the Priory removed and the stream culverted.

1835. Hastings made a Municipal Borough.

1835. A new Market and Corn Exchange erected in George Street.

Rioting and disturbance among the fishermen and others caused by the new market regulations.

"All Souls" Church (Roman Catholic) erected near Gensing Valley.

Theatre in Bourne Street purchased by the Wesleyans and converted into a Chapel.

1836. Great snow storm commenced on Christmas Eve, all traffic stopped and communication with London suspended for ten days.

1836. The "America Ground" cleared by Government.

1837. Queen Adelaide at Hastings.

1837. Jas. Burton, founder of St. Leonards, died, interred in the cemetery on the hill at back of the Church.

1838. Baptist Chapel erected in Wellington Square by Mr. Fletcher, a shipowner of Limehouse, London. First Minister, Mr. Saffrey. The congregation had previously met at the Swan Assembly Rooms in High Street.

St. Clements Church, Halton, built, chiefly at expense of Mrs. Milward. First Vicar, Rev. John Parkin, who held the living nearly fifty years. (Died 7th Sept., 1887.)

1839. Infirmary erected. Completed 1841.
1840. The Emperor of the French at Hastings.
1844. (March 2.) Meeting at Hastings to promote a railway from Headcorn, Tenterden and Rye to Hastings.
1845. Fairlight Church re-built.
1845. Brighton and Hastings Railway opened.
1848. Drinking Fountain erected at the East Well from surplus of fund raised to relieve sufferers from a fire.
1848. "The Hastings News" (Ransom's) first issued May 5th.
1850. Eversfield Place, Robertson Street, and Carlisle Parade began.
1851. Railway to Hastings completed. The station stands on ground that was once a boggy reed-bed.
Eversfield Place and Robertson Street commenced, the latter on the America Ground, held on lease from the Crown.
1852. St. Mary Magdalen Church consecrated.
1853. Custom House erected on the beach near the Fishmarket.
1854. "Old Humphrey" died.
1854. The Fisherman's Church erected in Rock-a-Nore Road. First Incumbent, the Rev. J. Tanner.
1854. Post Office removed from George Street to Wellington Place.
1855. Proposal by Mayor of St. Valerie to establish commercial relations between that town and Hastings.
1855. Ex-Queen of the French at St. Leonards. Queen Victoria passes through Hastings and received Address from Mayor, August 9th.
1856. Borough Cemetery at Ore opened; area, about 70 acres.
1856. Congregational Chapel, Robertson Street, built.
1857. St. Clement's Churchyard finally closed for burials.
1857. First stone of Holy Trinity Church laid.
1858. (September 29th.) Opening of Holy Trinity Church.
1858. Music Hall (now Public Hall) opened.
1859. Christ Church St. Leonards commenced.
discontinued two or three years previously
1859. All Saints Churchyard *partially* closed—the eastern portion allowed to be used a few years longer, there being much vacant ground.
1860. Volunteer Corps formed.
1862. (August 10th.) Opening of the Chancel of Holy Trinity Church.
1862. Queen's Hotel opened.
1862. Albert Memorial erected by public subscription—cost £860. Completed 1864.
1863. Ragged Schools opened in Tackleway.
Old Gaol in Court House Street pulled down.
Police Station erected on its site.

1864. St. Andrew's Gardens (first portion of Alexandra Park) opened.
Prince and Princess of Wales at St. Leonards.
Central Cricket and Recreation Ground opened.
1864. Albert Memorial Clock Tower completed.
1864. Warrior Square (then called Belgravia) finished.
St. Andrew's Square Gardens opened.
1865. (October 9th.) First stone of Normanhurst Court laid.
1866. (April 2nd.) Foundation Stone of St. Paul's Church laid.
Opened August 27th 1868.
1866. Hollington Church restored by Miss Dampier in memory of her Mother.
1867. St. John's Church, Hollington, opened.
St. John's Church, St. Leonards, opened Aug. 6th, replacing a temporary church.
1869. Death of Frederick North, Esq., M.P. for Hastings; Ughtred Kay-Shuttleworth, Esq., elected in his place.
Hastings Pier commenced.
Crown Princess of Prussia at St. Leonards.
Iron Church in St. Andrew's Square opened (now Salvation Army).
1870. All Saints Church restored.
New Fishmarket built. All fish stalls removed from the beach.
(Nov. 3.) St. Andrew's Church opened.
(Dec. 8.) Mr. Thomas (father of first Earl Brassey) died.
1870. Eight persons drowned in a Hastings pleasure yacht on Whit-Monday.
Normanhurst opened to the public, August.
1871. First School Board elected, Feb. 19th.
1872. Management of St. Leonards, hitherto in hands of Commissioners, transferred to Corporation of Hastings.
1872. Hastings Pier opened by Earl Granville, Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports. (August 5th.)
1873. Death of Sarah Countess Waldegrave, April 18th.
First stone of Christ Church laid by Mr. Beresford Hope, Nov. 6th.
Emmanuel Church, West Hill, consecrated Sept. 22nd.
1874. First portion of the Baths on White Rock Parade opened by Sir Thomas Brassey, May 28th.
1875. St. Clement's Church restored.
The Borough divided into Wards
Great storms in this and the two following years; much damage from the sea.
1875. Christ Church, St. Leonards, opened May 13th
1875. Death of the Rev. Thomas Vores, Sept. 20th.

1876. Baths at White Rock commenced on land re-claimed from the sea, completed and opened in 1879.
1878. Grammar School re-organised by amalgamation of Parker's and Saunder's Charities, and a grant from the Magdalen Charity.
1878. (Dec. 1.) St. John's Church destroyed by fire. Re-opened June 1st, 1879.
School of Science and Art founded.
1881. New Municipal Buildings, Queen's Road, opened Sept. 7th.
1882. (August 1st.) Opening of Gaiety Theatre.
1882. Church of the Holy Trinity consecrated April 13th.
Prince and Princess of Wales opened Alexandra Park, June 26th (extension of St. Andrew's Gardens).
1883. (August 4th.) Foundation of St. Peters Church laid.
1883. New Grammar School on West Hill opened.
St. Mary Star-of-the-Sea, High Street, opened.
St. John's Church, Maze Hill, completed, after fire, and re-opened Sept. 29th.
1883. Heavy gale, Oct. 18th. East Parade seriously damaged.
1884. Town Council decide to purchase West and East Hills, Nov. meeting.
Christ Church, St. Leonards, consecrated Nov. 20th.
1885. First stone of new Hospital laid Aug. 24th.
1887. Hospital built on site of Infirmary. Opened Oct. 13.
1887. St. Thomas of Canterbury Church destroyed by fire, Jan. 3rd.
Death of first Lady Brassey, Sept. 14th.
1887. Rev. John Parkin died, September 7th.
1888. Brassey Institute, Museum, etc., presented to the Town Council, June 9th.
1890. Guestling Church burnt down, March 22nd.
1891. St. Leonards Pier constructed. Opened Oct. 28.
1891. West Hill Lift opened March 25th. Architects, Plowman Bros. Builder, Toby King.
1891. Great snow storm and gale, three fishermen drowned, March 9th.
1892. The Museum opened.
1893. Golf Links laid out on East Hill in May.
Corporation decide to light the whole Sea Front, $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles, with electric light, May 5th.
June 5th-8th. Poll of ratepayers, and decision against aid from rates to proposed harbour.
1895. Grand Carnival—a great success, about £2,000 spent on decorations, etc. Again in 1896.
1896. Harbour construction commenced.

THE OLDEST DIRECTORY OF HASTINGS KNOWN TO COLLECTORS.

I stated in the first edition of "Hastings of Bygone Days—and the Present," page 165, that "the earliest Directory of Hastings of which the Author has any knowledge is one published by P. M. Powell in 1819," with the title page "Guide to the Lodging-Houses of Hastings," printed for P. M. Powell. I am, however, through the kindness of Mr. James Castello, enabled to present the reader with some extracts from one published in 1792, two years before the first local guide to Hastings was issued and known as Stell's Guide—1794. The title is "The Universal British Directory of Trade, Commerce and Manufacture; comprising Lists of Inhabitants of London, Westminster and Southwark, and of all the Cities, Towns, and Principal Villages in England and Wales, in 5 vols., 8vo. London, 1792."

This work was broken up into Towns and the sections for various towns were advertised, and Mr. Castello secured the section relating to Hastings, from which I extracted the following account of the town in 1792, as follows:—

"HASTINGS, SUSSEX.

"HASTINGS is the first of the cinque-ports, and sends two members to Parliament. Its distance from London is 64 miles; from Rye, 10 miles; Eastbourne, 18; Battle, eight; Winchelsea, seven. It is governed by a Mayor, twelve jurats, and an indefinite number of freemen. King William landed at or near it with his army, and by him it was made one of the five ports (as the Lord Coke, in the fourth part of his Institutes, affirms) and, as tradition tells us, fortified it with a castle, built on the top of a hill near thereto, a part of the ruins of which are yet to be seen.

"It gives the name to the easternmost of the six divisions of the County of Sussex called Rapes: the barony whereof, and of the Castle, were given by William the Conqueror to John de Britannia (as Speed's Chronicles testify), and since, Edward the fourth conferred, with other royalties, the title of Lord of Hasting on William Hasting, one of his bed-chamber, in the first year of his reign (1461). This hath added to the honourable titles of the Earl of Huntingdon, who enjoyed the honour and profit thereof till the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and the then Henry Earl of Huntingdon, in the 33rd year of that Queen's reign, sold the profits of the rape, etc., to Thomas Pelham, Esq. By the charter of King James the Second, it was incorporated by the name of Mayor, Jurats, and commonalty, of the town and port of Hasting, in the County of Sussex, and under this charter the corporation now exercises its franchises, probably for political reasons; for in the

30th year of Queen Elizabeth a charter was granted, but the government of the borough under this charter, whatever may be the reasons, is not attended to.

“ Before the passing of Mr. Crewe’s bill, the appointment of the representatives in parliament for this town was wholly in the treasury ; the number of voters was usually about twenty, (at present twelve) the whole of whom had places under, or were otherwise provided for by, government. The management and conduct of this faithful and well-disciplined corps of treasury auxiliaries was, for a long series of years, vested in Mr. Collier, who, in this situation, acquired a very princely fortune, whereby he was enabled to provide for five co-heiresses, his daughters, in a very handsome manner. Upon his death, Mr. Edward Milward (who had married a Miss Collier) succeeded to this post of agent to the treasury ; and by way of compensation for the proper discharge of his election duties, was appointed to the very lucrative office of surveyor-general of the riding officers ; from which post, about five years ago, he was removed by the board of customs, notwithstanding the whole interest and influence of the treasury was exerted to prevent his being displaced. (That this opposition between two such great powers may not appear strange to our readers, we think it necessary to inform them, that at this time the board of customs (owing to a change in administration) were in opposition to the lords of the treasury ; most of the commissioners, having been appointed under former administrations, felt no very great affection for the present. Mr. Henry Pelham, and Mr. Papillon, however, having been prevailed on to retire, the treasury have now regained the favourable opinion of that office. This loss was, however, made up to Milward, by the appointment of his son to the office of deputy comptroller of excise, who, on coming of age, was made a jurat ; but it was judged expedient to unite also in his person, in addition, the more lucrative office of town-clerk ; accordingly, Mr. Thatcher, the old town-clerk, was turned out of his place, to make room for this young gentleman. A trial in the court of King’s Bench, between these two competitors for office, was the consequence ; when it was determined, that a jurat of the corporation of Hastings might be elected town-clerk ; but that the two offices are incompatible, and that the acceptance of the latter, though an inferior office, will vacate the former. He has since resigned the office of town-clerk, on getting his more valuable place in the excise, and is now again a jurat ; these two places, it is presumed, not being incompatible.

“ It would be very difficult to pronounce, whether, at this time, the treasury, or Mr. Milward’s interest in this borough, be the superior ; indeed, this point is not likely to be brought to a very speedy determination, as this gentleman invariably sides with the minister for the time being, whose appointees he returns to parliament upon very moderate terms and conditions, without making

any inquiry as to their capacity, or fitness for that situation. In fact, the only indispensable requisite is, an ability and disposition to say yea and nay according to the mandate of the minister. At present, the whole patronage of government, in this place, is in the hands of Mr. Milward, who disposes of the various places as he imagines will be most conducive to the common interest of himself and the treasury. Since Mr. Crewe's Bill, it has been necessary to keep up a certain number of freemen (just enough to go through the farce, and to perform the various ceremonies of an election) who do not ostensibly hold any place or post under government. These, however, do not go unprovided for; they are, as of course, quartered on such of their brother-freemen as are in possession of the more lucrative situations; others, rather than lose their franchises by the operation of that bill, have given up their places to their sons, and other near relations; by which measure the freeman preserves his vote and the treasury its influence. Whatever personal interest Mr. Milward may have at this place, apart from, and independent of, the treasury, is obtained and preserved by lending small sums of money on bond to the more indigent freemen; which obligations are never meant to be enforced, so long as they are, as electors, in a state of passive obedience and non-resistance; but if, at any time, they should venture to give the smallest indication of an inclination to an independence of opinion and sentiment, a payment of their debts is required, and a prison the certain consequence of the smallest delay.

"In a contested election, between Colonel Beaumont and Mr. Grey, in 1689, the number of voters polled was 67; in 1698, between Mr. Austen and Mr. Gott, 70. In 1690 a petition of Robert Munns, Esq., was delivered to the house of commons, shewing, that the petitioner was duly elected one of the barons of this port, and ought to have been returned; but John Beaumont, Esq., Governor of Dover Castle, who pretended to have a power over the several cinque-ports, wrote several mandatory letters to the mayors and returning-officers of the cinque-ports, requiring them not to engage their votes for any particular person, for that his majesty would recommend to them such persons as he should think convenient for them to choose; and, by several menaces and threats, procured a majority of the electors to vote for him to serve in parliament for the port of Hastings, and prevailed on the mayor to return him, though not legally elected, to the prejudice of the petitioner; which petition was referred to a committee to report upon, etc.

"We make no comment on the above, but leave the reader to form his judgment of the purity of this borough from a naked statement of facts, and we will venture to assert, since the time of this petition, that it is in no way amended; but this by way of sample. From the evidence on the trial of the mandamus, brought by H. Moore, against the mayor and jurats of this town, it appears,

that the right to the elective franchise in this place, according to its true constitution, and according to the custumal then produced, is as follows :—In 1736, a writ of mandamus was brought by Henry Moore, to require the mayor, jurats, and commonalty, of the town and port of Hastings, to admit him into the place and office of one of the freemen of that town ; and the writ sets forth, that he is the eldest son of a freeman, born within the town, after the admission and swearing of his father into the place and office of one of the freemen of the said town and port ; and that he has a right, in respect thereof, and also upon paying a reasonable fine, to be admitted into the place and office of one of the freemen of the said town and port. The above was the matter at issue for the jury, who gave a verdict for the plaintiff, Mr. Moore.

“ We should here observe, that Moore was completely successful upon this occasion. It is true, that he claimed his freedom merely as an eldest son ; but the same evidence by which he availed himself went the full length of establishing the right of every other son of a freeman to his freedom. The verdict given by the jury upon this occasion, came under the review of the court of King’s Bench, as appears from Strange’s Reports, 1070, which, after solemn argument, was confirmed by the unanimous determination and sanction of the judges.

“ We wish, in a very particular manner, to draw the attention of the reader to this very important trial, as it not only clearly and satisfactorily demonstrates what was originally, and what ought still to be, the constitution of Hastings, but throws great light upon the true constitution of the rest of the cinque-ports, notwithstanding the usurpations and corruptions which, in these latter days, prevail, more or less in all of them.”

“ The Directory of the principal inhabitants is as follows :—

CORPORATION.

Jurats.

Coppard Rev. William Hicks	Milward Edwd., Sen., Esq.
Crouch John	Milward Edward, Jun., Esq.
Crouch Lovell	Polhill William
Crouch Thomas	Shorter Goldsworthy John
*Crouch Walter	*Stevens John
*Evitt Thomas (Deputy Controller of the Customs)	Thatcher John

Freemen.

Ball Richard	†Murray Hon. Sir James
*Ball Robert	Sargent Henry
Bossom Benjamin	Sargent John
Coppard Rev. William Hicks	Scrivens William
Crouch, Nathaniel	Stevens Charles Crouch
Diplock Jos.	Taught Stephen
Edward Joseph	Thatcher John

Edwards Richard Sen
Edwards Richard Jun
Evitt Edward
Godley Thomas
Hide John
Hide Thomas
Kent Spencer
Lintott William
Mannington Thomas
Meadow Robert Sen :
Meadow Robert Jun :
Morfee Thomas

*Thatcher Robert
 *Weatheman John
 Williams John
 Williams John Jun :
 (Marked thus * Officers of the
 Customs)
 John Stanley Esq. M.P.
 Recorder
 John Carey, Town Clerk
 John Weatheman and John
 Williams, Sergeants at Mace
 Thankful Phillips, Town Crier

† "This is an error, the Hon. General James Murray was not knighted."—Author.

GENTRY.

Adams Thomas Esq.
Gladwish John Esq.
Hamilton — Esq.

Jackson Henry Esq.
Wenham Williams Esq.

CLERGY.

Coppard Rev. William Hicks Whitear Rev. William
Peyton Rev. Mr.

PHYSIC.

Crouch Charles, Surgeon,	Satterley John ditto
Apothecary and Man-mid-	Satterley Samuel ditto
wife	Weatheman John, Druggist

LAW.

Acton Walter, Attorney
Carey John, Attorney

Shadwell William, Attorney
and Notary Public
Thatcher John, Attorney

TRADERS &C.

Adams Thomas, Hairdresser	Hide Thomas & Son, Carpenters
Amore Charles, Grocer and Tallow Chandler	and Joiners
Ball John, Wheelwright	Hovenden Thomas, Common Brewer
Barry James, Postmaster	Johnson W., Sadler & Collar Maker
Barry James, Librarian &c.	Kent Spencer, Ship Carpenter
Bossom Thomas, Cooper	Knight John, Cabinet Maker and Carpenter
Breeds and Brother, Captains of the Coasting Hoys to London	Lee John, Ship Carpenter
Burchett Edward, Shoemaker	Lock W., Fishmonger
Burfield W., Butcher	Mannington Thomas, Black- smith
Carley William, Ironmonger, Appraiser and Auctioneer	Martin Michael, Shoemaker
Carswell Jos. Shopkeeper	Murphy Alexander, Shopkeeper
Caswall Jos. Baker	Penfold John, Mercer & Draper
Cole John, Hairdresser	Phillips John, Shopkeeper

Cornwall E., Victualler (Ship & Castle)	Phillips W., Baker
Cossoms John & Francis, Mercers, Drapers and Grocers	Reed Thomas, Stonemason & Glazier
Cox John, Grocer	Rickarsie Charles, Shopkeeper
Crouch Thomas & Lovell, Mercers, Drapers and Grocers	Scrivens William, Swan Inn
Crouch W., Distiller	Smith William, Carpenter
Diplock Jos., Victualler (Ship)	Stell James, Librarian &c.
Dulvey — — (Taylor)	Tebay James, Ironmonger, Ap- praiser and Auctioneer
Dunn Thos., Victualler (Rose and Crown)	Thatcher Robert, Shopkeeper
Edmunds — — Shoemaker	Thwaites Henry, Shopkeeper
Edwards Jos., Peruke Maker	Thwaites Thomas, Sailmaker
Fisher — — Butcher	Thwaites Thomas, Shopkeeper
Foord John, Cooper	Tutt Stephen, Common Brewer
Giles John, Milkman	West George, Grocer
Gill William, Watchmaker & Silversmith	Whiting John, Stonemason
Hopper Thomas, Blacksmith	Whiting Richard, Cabinet Maker and Carpenter
	Williams John, Shoemaker
	Winter — — Shoemaker
	Woodhams John, Shopkeeper
	Woodroffe John, George Inn

"It will be noticed that many of the names are still well known to the present generation in spite of the passing away of 128 years, and many of my readers' thoughts will go back to their great-great-grand parents."

Before publishing these extracts referring to Mr. John Collier I sent them to one of his descendants, the Editor of the "Collier Letters," and am permitted to publish his reply:—

"Dear Mr. Cousins,—I am much obliged for your letter and enclosure of the extract from the Directory of 1792, and the only remark I have to make is that whatever indirect benefit Mr. Collier may have obtained from his position as Treasury Agent in the shape of appointments, such as Surveyor-General of the Riding Officers (in which he preceded Mr. Milward) and Usher and Crier of the Court of King's Bench, he had great difficulty in getting back money paid by him out of his own pocket in support of the Treasury interest in the borough, and the whole amount due to him on this account was not repaid till some years after his death. (See the Collier Letters of 27th November and 11th December, 1750.) I may add that Mr. Collier did not depend entirely upon his position as Treasury Agent. He was also a practising Solicitor and Agent for several country gentlemen's estates. I know much less of the Milwards, father and son, than of Mr. Collier, but my impression is that what is said about their methods of keeping up the Treasury interest in the borough represents what is already pretty well known to old Hastings people, and probably similar methods were employed in other Treasury boroughs."

No diligent student of the Collier Letters, which contain references to current political and other events, illustrating the manners of the time, and elucidating the family history of Mr. Collier, can come to any other conclusion than that Mr. Collier was a gentleman of a kindly nature and a devoted husband and father. The Collier Letters cover a period from 1716 to 1780, a copy of which is in the Public Library in Claremont.

Mr. John Collier was born at Eastbourne in November, 1685, his father being the proprietor of the "Lamb" Inn there, which is still a well-known hostelry in the Old Town, to which I recently paid a visit. It is a fine specimen of the Tudor Period of architecture, and may be in some parts of a much earlier date. The crypt used as a cellar is well worth inspection. Mr. Collier adopted the profession of the law, and settled in Hastings early in life. He became Town Clerk, and afterwards Mayor, to which office he was elected five times, and was one of the Barons of the Cinque Ports. (For extracts from his Letters see page 51.)



HASTINGS—THE LAND OF CASTLES, MONASTERIES AND THE BATTLEFIELD.

Orders for this work having been received from the Colonies and America, the Author believes that views and descriptions of the Old Castles, etc., in the neighbourhood of Hastings, will be appreciated by those residing in our “Dominions over the Seas.”

Hastings Castle is fully described with accompanying views in previous pages.

Battle Abbey was built in 1066 by William the Conqueror to commemorate his victory over Harold the Saxon. The decisive Battle of Hastings, fought October 14th, 1066, which deprived Harold of his life and crown, and by which William, Duke of Normandy, achieved the Conquest of England, was the grand



Buck

[Lent by Mr. Chas. Dawson, F.S.A.]

BATTLE ABBEY, 1737.

object which the Conqueror, by the founding of this Abbey, purposed to perpetuate, although the Conqueror did not live to see the finishing of his work—completed about a quarter-of-a-century after his death during the lifetime of his unworthy son—William Rufus. The circumstances attending the invasion are matter of the Chronicles of the time. The High Altar of the Abbey is said to have been erected on the spot where Harold and the royal standard fell. It is a magnificent pile of buildings, and is still in a wonderful state of preservation. William the Conqueror landed his army on the shore between Pevensey and Hastings, where he made his headquarters, for 15 days, before he marched to battle. Harold was in Yorkshire, and by forced marches reached Sussex in time to marshal his forces to meet the attack of the Norman hosts. The Battle and the history of the Abbey has been written by several authorities. In 1538 the Abbey was suppressed at the Dissolution by Henry VIII. and the Abbey and its possessions

given by the Monarch to his favourite, Sir Anthony Browne, Master of the Horse, after him his son, Viscount Montague, then to Sir Thomas Webster, then to the Duke of Cleveland. At the



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THE GATEWAY—BATTLE ABBEY.—1920.



Photo]

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BATTLE ABBEY.—1911.

present time the owner is Sir Augustus F. Webster, Bart. The late Mr. M. P. Grace, a rich American gentleman from New York, occupied the Abbey until his death in September, 1920. The Abbot's Hall is the only part now shewn to visitors.

Horace Walpole was a personal friend of John Collier of Hastings. He travelled through East Sussex and stayed at Battle Abbey. He describes the country here in his *Letters*—"The Holy Land of Abbeys and Gothic Castles" (1752). The Gateway is a tower about 54 feet high, of three stories, with an octagon turret. It is considered one of the noblest specimens of the Norman Gothic now remaining. All tourists and visitors to Hastings should see Battle Abbey. A small fee is charged for entrance by ticket.



Photo]

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BODIAM CASTLE.

Built by Sir Edward Dalyngruge, 1386 (Richard II.), was a fortified Castle, surrounded by a moat supplied from the river Rother running close by, and the most perfect example of a moated stronghold in the Kingdom. The domain has changed ownership several times in its history. During the Parliamentary Wars the fighting was fierce around it, and the Royalists having taken possession, dismantled the fortress and left it in ruins. The ruins are, however, not neglected. A custodian is in residence close by. The moat is there, and Bodiam Castle is easily reached by road or rail from Hastings, and is one of the favourite trips for visitors, and the scene one of picturesque beauty.

HURSTMONCEUX CASTLE.

Hurstmonceux was one of the 108 Manors bestowed with the castlery of Hastings on the Earl of Eu by William the Conqueror. Afterwards became the property of Waleran de Herst, who took the name of Monceux, son of Waleran, a Norman. In the reign

of Edward II. it passed to Sir John de Fienes, by marriage with Maud de Monceau. In 1430 Sir Roger de Fienes, son of Sir John, obtained a release from all feudal services due to the Honour of Hastings, and received the King's license to fortify his Manorhouse at Hurstmonceux. In consequence he erected the castle at a cost of £3,800. His son, Richard, married Joan, heiress of Thomas, Lord Dacre, whose family held it for centuries. Thence to the Earl of Sussex, in 1674, who laid out large sums on the Castle, including richly carved wainscots by Grinling Gibbons. In 1708 the estate was sold by the Earl of Sussex to Mr. George Naylor, of Lincoln's Inn, for £38,215. Mr. Naylor's heir married Dr. Francis Hare, of King's College, Cambridge, who afterwards became Bishop of Chichester. He resided for some time at the Castle. His son, Francis Naylor, greatly neglected the building. At his death the estate devolved upon the Rev. Robert Hare, the Bishop's son, by



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HURSTMONCEUX CASTLE.

second marriage, who found it so dilapidated that by the advice of the architect, Wyatt, its owner in 1777, decided to demolish the interior, and used the materials in building the mansion of Hurstmonceux Place. In 1807 the Rev. Robert Hare sold the estate to Thomas Reed Kemp, Esq., and after one other change, it became the property of the late Herbert Barrett Curteis, Esq. The Castle is still most grand and stately in its premature decay, with its huge front of red brick, covered with ivy. Although only built in the reign of Henry VI., it is said to have been the earliest large brick built house in England, after the time of Richard II., and a most valuable specimen of the transition of domestic building from a fortress to a Manor House. Horace Walpole describes its beauties in his letters. Hurstmonceux is visited by thousands from Hastings during the summer season.

Pevensey is supposed to have been a British settlement prior to the Roman invasion, and British coins have been discovered there. It is now pretty well agreed that Pevensey is the site of the ancient city of Anderida, and was in close proximity to the great forest of Anderida, mentioned by Bede (731), and described in the Saxon Chronicle (893), as 120 miles in length from East to West, and 30 miles from North to South. It was at Pevensey that William the Conqueror made a successful landing. The history of England supplies particulars of this great fortress of ancient times. Edward III. settled the Castle on John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, and John Pelham was appointed its Constable, and his courageous wife, during her husband's absence with Henry in Yorkshire (1399), sustained a prolonged siege, and her beautiful letter describing the siege is given in Hallam's "Literature of Europe." Many state prisoners were confined in the Castle in the custody of Sir John Pelham, including Edward, Duke of York, cousin of Henry IV., King James I. of Scotland and Joanna of Navarre. After many



Photo]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

PEVENSEY CASTLE.

changes, in 1730, it came into the possession of Spencer Compton, Earl of Wilmington. From him to the Cavendishes, its present owner being the Duke of Devonshire. Extensive excavations were made in 1852, by Messrs. Mark Anthony Lower and C. Roach Smith, and recently under a Committee of Antiquarians, comprising :—Messrs. W. Page, F.S.A., and C. R. Peers, F.S.A. (editors of *Victorian History*), H. Sands, F.S.A., L. F. Salzmann, and J. E. Ray (Hastings), who have discovered numbers of Roman Coins, Pottery, and other relics of the Roman Period. The ruins are

most picturesque, covered within and without with ivy, and of immense extent. A good view of the Castle is obtained from the L.B. and S.C. Railway, which runs close by. Passengers alight at Pevensey Station. Pevensey should not be missed by visitors.



Photo]

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THE ANCIENT TOWN OF RYE.
(One of the Members of the Cinque Ports.)



Photo]

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YPRES CASTLE, RYE.

Rye dates from Edward the Confessor, and is one of the most interesting old places in England, built on a rude isolated rock, its base has for ages been washed by the sea. The hill upon which it stands is crowned by the grand old Church, seen in the view, and

which is said to be one of the largest in England. It was once a walled-in town, remains of which still exist. One of the ancient gateways—Landgate Tower, remains ; also Ypres Castle, built by William of Ypres in the reign of King Stephen. There is also the remains of a Monastery of the Friars Heremites of Saint Augustine, and many other old buildings of great interest, and what is important, these are all religiously preserved and cared for by a body called the “Committee for the Preservation of the Ancient Buildings of Rye.” It has had a Mayor and Corporation for 700 years, Councillor J. L. Deacon being the present Mayor. Rye is practically surrounded by water, by the rivers Rother, Brede, and Tillingham, which meet there and run to the sea at Rye Harbour, nearly two miles away. It is full of interest to antiquarians. Jeakes, the author of the “History of the Cinque Ports,” was



Photo]

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WINCHELSEA CHURCH.

Town Clerk and a native, and Holloway, author of the “History of Rye,” also lived there. Modern histories may be had of Messrs. Adams and Son, or Mr. J. L. Deacon, Stationers, Rye.

Visitors to Hastings should not fail to visit this Ancient Town, from which a trip to Bodiam Castle can be made by the river Rother in a steam launch. Winchelsea and Camber Castle (Henry VIII.), are only a mile or so off.

Winchelsea is another of the Ancient Towns, and a Member of the Cinque Ports. It is but a shadow of its former importance. The first Winchelsea was a city which stood far out to sea, and was overwhelmed by a storm in 1287, and afterwards a new Winchelsea

was built about six centuries ago, on the eminence upon which it now stands. It is a small town, but full of antiquarian interest and of historical account. Like Rye, it was formerly a walled-in town, and three of its ancient gateways still remain as monuments of its antiquity. There is the magnificent Church of St. Thomas, with its grand monuments of the Alards, a Monastery of Black Friars, a Court Hall, Wesley's Tree, under which he preached his last out-door sermon in 1790. Winchelsea has a most interesting history, see "Cooper's History of Winchelsea," and local Guide Books. It may be reached by rail or motor coaches from Hastings.



Photo]

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STRAND GATE—WINCHELSEA.

With view of Rye in the distance.

A Tudor Cottage adjoining this Gateway was for years owned and occupied by Miss Ellen Terry, the great Shakesperian Actress.

Besides the places here mentioned, the neighbourhood of Hastings abounds with other old Monasteries, Ancestral Seats of the Pelhams, Ashburnhams, Cavendishes, Frewens, and other historic families, Old Manor Houses, famous Churches, etc

To French and American Visitors Hastings should form a part of their itinerary of England. Sussex is one of the most beautiful Counties on its southern shores, resembling a vast garden.

All these Castles and Towns can be visited in one or two days, either by rail, or by the splendid service of motors and motor coaches running from Hastings.

Guides to describe the Historic Buildings are available.



Photo]

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CAMBER CASTLE.

This stands on the Marshes, about one mile from Rye or Winchelsea, and formed one of a chain of fortresses built by Henry VIII. about 1539. The others are Walmer, Deal, Sandgate, and Sandown; they were built by means of special taxation. Camber is about a mile from the sea, but was formerly close to it, and consists of a strong central circular tower surrounded by five smaller ones, connected by short curtains. It has been in ruins for centuries, and is now covered with wall-flowers and wall germander. It will, however, repay a visit.



HASTINGS OF THE PRESENT DAY.

A WORLD-FAMED WATERING PLACE.

William the Conqueror, it is said, was in 1066 the first of many millions to arrive at a true appreciation of the special attributes of the Sunny East Sussex Coast. The same reasons that made it suitable for the Norman invaders contribute very largely to its present popularity.

Right in the heart of the East Sussex Coast, in its most favoured part from every point of view, Hastings and St. Leonards has arisen in picturesque stages. Here again, incidentally, the Norman Conqueror showed admirable foresight by selecting Hastings as his "base" wherefrom to introduce himself to the British public of that day.



Photo]

[F. J. Parsons, Ltd.

VIEW OF ROBERTSON STREET AND THE MEMORIAL WITH HASTINGS CASTLE IN THE BACKGROUND.

From a mere fishing place just over a century ago, Hastings and St. Leonards now stands unique as a health and pleasure resort; in population it is the second largest watering place on the South Coast. In beauty and picturesqueness it holds an unrivalled position. It is patronised by all classes, from the millionaire to the humblest toiler. There is room for all, and there is a season for all. The sea front, with its three miles of wood-paved and electric-lighted promenade, is one of the glories of the English coast. There are hotels and boarding establishments to suit all sections of the community. The romance of history is woven in

its name, as the scene of the great battle which changed the destiny of England—the Battle of Hastings. This nature-favoured watering-place is endowed with a climate of rare health-giving and health conserving properties. Whilst it is mild in winter, it is cool in summer, compared with London and other cities and towns. It is situated at the most picturesque points of the beautiful county of Sussex, and commands extensive views of the great water highway of the English Channel, and both the well-known headlands of Beachy Head on the West and Dungeness on the East are visible from its promenade.



Photo]

[A. M. Breach.

HASTINGS PIER EXTENSION WITH BANDSTAND.*

Upon the arrival of the visitor at Hastings Railway Station, the striking picture of the ruins of the old Castle will be seen crowning the heights on the West Hill, two hundred feet above the sea. Hastings and St. Leonards (for they are one town under one Government), is famous for its splendid sea front, for its two fine Piers, for its four lovely Parks and Gardens, its palatial Hotels, Boarding Houses, handsome Theatre, Picture Palaces, and other places of amusement. The surrounding country of sylvan woods, glens, hills and dales, include some of the most beautiful scenery in the South of England. It is not only an invalids' resort where many a broken down patient has returned with health renewed and strength built up, but its many and varied attractions give it a charm to the ordinary pleasure seeker. There are ample facilities for sports and recreation, for sea bathing,—swimming baths

second to none are here—for boating, sailing, fishing, and other aquatic pleasures. Golf (two links), cricket, bowls, tennis, croquet, hockey and football can be indulged in. Hunting with the East Sussex Foxhounds, Otter Hounds and Harriers all meet in the neighbourhood. Its musical arrangements are of a very high order, and under the directorship of Mr. Julian Clifford, Military Bands (frequently changed) are engaged during the Season, while during the Winter Season Mr. Julian Clifford conducts a splendid orchestra, playing daily, including Sundays and frequent concerts are given in the Public Halls and on both Piers, while several Entertainment Parties cater for the public in various parts of the town. A great feature all the year round is the splendidly appointed Motor Coaches running daily into the rural country and trips to all parts of England, Scotland and Wales are arranged.



Photo]

[A. M. Breach.

WHITE ROCK BOWLING GREEN.

Hastings has become famous for its annual fixtures for the sportsman and the general public, including an Open Bowling Tournament on the White Rock Bowling Greens of Cumberland turf, County Cricket Week, Tennis Tournament, Regatta, Sea Fishing and Pier Fishing by the Angling Association, besides frequent and delightful *Al-fresco* Fetes in the beautiful Parks and Gardens, while the Circular Tram Route of nine miles around the lovely hills surrounding Hastings and St. Leonards is a treat not to be missed.

Nature evidently planned the place for rest and recuperation. Nowhere else, within easy reach of London, are such gems of scenery

to be found in close proximity to marvellous seascapes. Man has enhanced the work of nature by endowing the town and its environs with a halo of historical glamour.

With regard to the minor, but important details in the making of a resort, the makers of modern Hastings have not been found wanting. Well-kept main roads from north, east and west lead into the town. Good accommodation to suit all classes is provided at reasonable rates. The drainage of the town is perfect and the water supply of exceptionally high quality and entirely free from chalk.

The claims of Hastings and St. Leonards to pre-eminence among resorts on the score of natural beauty combined with historical interest are great, but its outstanding recommendations are its peerless climate and sunshine record. The latter, the indisputable figures of the Meteorological Office shew to be absolutely unequalled for consistency and quantity by that of any other locality in these Isles.

A crowd of people sitting in the open, enjoying the music of the band in the morning, is a most usual spectacle on the Hastings Promenade, at any time during the winter. The town has always been especially noted for its suitability for nervous or pulmonary cases.

In recent years a great improvement scheme, involving the transformation of the centre part of the esplanade and the erection of a first-class music pavilion, backed by terraces and gardens, was begun, and its completion—although greatly delayed by the War—is now a matter of the not far distant future. The first-fruits of the Scheme were a handsome open-air auditorium and bandstand. Meanwhile, the Corporation is preparing for the future by successfully endeavouring to build up for the town the reputation of a noted musical centre. The appointment in 1919 of Julian Clifford as Musical Director meant a great stride towards this goal.

PLACES OF INTEREST IN HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS.

The Old Town is full of places which no lover of the ancient and beautiful should miss. The quaint fishing village, the mediæval narrow streets that have been trodden and loved by famous men of many generations, the old houses in All Saints' Street, the picturesque cliff-side houses and terraces East and West of the Old Town Valley, the Churches of St. Clement and All Saints, with their memories of Saxon and Norman England—all these combine to impress even the most casual visitor with a sense of that mellowed beauty with which age and association have invested them. The whole of this part of the Borough is redolent of those days when Hastings was the Premier Cinque Port, from whose harbour warships—provided by the town—sailed to fight for England.

From the West Hill and that fine site, Tor Field, can be had memorable views of the Old Town in its entirety, and also of the “new” Hastings to the Westward. On this hill stands Hastings Castle, built soon after the Battle of Hastings by William the Conqueror to protect his “lines of communication.” It is a fine relic, the beauty of which has been enhanced by the planting of flowers within its walls. The St. Clement’s Caves extend deeply into the bowels of the West Hill. There are three acres of subterranean passages, which constitute a remarkable geological formation.

Hollington Church-in-the-Wood, easily reached by tram, is one of the smallest churches in the Kingdom. It stands in wild pretty country, which forms a perfect setting for its quaint design and ivy-covered ancient walls.

On North’s Seat, the highest point in Hastings, it is exceedingly pleasant to sit on a summer’s day and “watch the coloured counties.”

The town is rich in fine public gardens. The Alexandra Park, one part of which has been cultivated by man and the remainder by nature virtually unassisted, is a public possession, the like of which, for size and varied beauty, very few towns can claim. Its beautiful lakes are well stocked with water-fowl. The Gensing Gardens and the St. Leonards Gardens are two little gems of scenery, the former noted for its magnificent flower display and the latter for its tiered woodlands. The Grosvenor Gardens at the western end of select Marina are a pleasant retreat.

PLACES OF INTEREST IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD.

To the eastward of Hastings charming walks may be had either by road and lane or by cliff paths.

The East Hill, which can be mounted either on foot or by lift, boasts magnificent open spaces and affords views of land and sea which several generations of artists have immortalised. The further side of the Hill leads down to Ecclesbourne Glen, which is separated by a mile from Fairlight Glen. These glens are deeply wooded dells, through which clear spring streams pursue their rocky ways to the sea. The scenery there is distinguished by the wild and rugged beauty of the vegetation. A gentle climb on the east side of Fairlight brings one to the Lovers’ Seat, which apart from the interest attaching to its romantic story, rewards the visitor for his climb with superb views.

Fairlight Church, a noted landmark, and Fairlight Down, are to be found beyond the Glens. From the Down may be enjoyed an uninterrupted vista of coastland stretching from South Foreland to Beachy Head, whilst on a clear day the coast of France is visible from this 600-foot-high plateau.

Further rambling eastward brings one to Winchelsea and Rye, those two old-world dream towns in which the very breath of past ages seems to linger.

To the north of the town the country side is of a typically English rural type, fresh and green, with charming villages truly rustic in character. In this direction is to be found the town of Battle with its many survivals of former centuries, the chief among them being the famous Battle Abbey, built on the spot where Harold fell when the Normans conquered the Saxons on Senlac Hill. Herstmonceux and Bodiam Castles are two of the best preserved castles in the Kingdom. The former, built in 1440, is the finest brick-built castle in Britain, whilst Bodiam as a moated fortress has no surviving peers. Both are within easy reach of Hastings to the northward.

The villages of Pevensey and Westham, which lie approximately eight miles west of St. Leonards, are well worth a visit. The Pevensey and Westham Churches are splendidly preserved and full of absorbing interest to the antiquarian. Pevensey's great Castle is a surviving portion of the old Roman fortress of Anderida.

HOW TO GET TO HASTINGS AND ST. LEONARDS.

There is now an excellent service of trains between Hastings and St. Leonards and the Metropolis. Many City men have taken advantage thereof to live by the sea ; moreover the season ticket rates are exceedingly reasonable. The town is served by two Companies, viz., the South Eastern and Chatham and the London, Brighton and South Coast Railways. The London termini are Charing Cross, Victoria, Cannon Street and London Bridge. It now takes approximately 90 minutes to journey "from gloom to sunshine."

WHERE TO MAKE ENQUIRIES.

There is, on the White Rock Promenade, an Information Bureau, where visitors may obtain guidance and information on all matters connected with their welfare and enjoyment, and in close proximity to the railway station an Enquiry Office for the benefit of those seeking apartments or lodgings.

WAR RELICS.



GERMAN SUBMARINE—U118.

On the night of the 15th of April, 1919, this monster was driven ashore opposite Denmark Place, Hastings. It was reported she was being towed by a French ship to a French port, and during a storm broke away and driven high on the beach. She was purchased by some firm and broken up, and a small portion of the wreck was still lying on the beach when this was written. The occasion was taken to benefit some local War Fund by the admission of the public to inspect the Submarine, when a considerable amount of money was realized. Since going to press with this edition yet another German Submarine has been washed ashore at Bulverhythe.



THE BREAKING UP OF SUBMARINE U118.

Another War Relic in the shape of a "tank," presented to Hastings, may be seen on the Parade opposite Pelham Crescent.

LEST WE FORGET.

Almost all the Parishes or Churches and other places of worship in the Borough have their War Memorial, in remembrance of our townsmen who have made the great sacrifice. That which has been placed on the West Wall of Holy Trinity Church stands out above others for its beauty and ornate character; and I cannot do better than quote from the Parish Magazine for November, the description of the Memorial furnished by Canon T. W. Cook, M.A., the Vicar.

DESCRIPTION.

The centre of the design consists of a bronze Triptych, containing fifty-six names etched deeply upon copper and gilt, and inscribed "To the Men of the Parish who fell in the Great War, 1914-1918."

Above is a roundel in cloisonné representing S. George and the Dragon.

The background is a panel of gold mosaic in which is wrought upon a scroll "Their name liveth for evermore."

The Triptych stands upon a narrow table supported by seven arches and columns which frame a composition, in coloured relief, of a Heavenly choir in the form of a cantoria.

On each side of the central design are sentinels keeping watch and guard.

The four figures in the arcading on the south represent typical occupations of the men before the war:—The Professions, Agriculture, Handicrafts, Sea-faring life.

The four allegorical figures on the north side arcading represent Justice, Honour, Truth, Freedom.

Across the breadth of the whole design, at the top, is a frieze lettered "Make them to be numbered with Thy saints in glory everlasting," and crested with carved oak leaves and acorns.

Above all stands a Cross.

SYMBOLISM.

The intention is to concentrate emphasis on the men: it is our Memorial to them "Lest we forget."

The legend of S. George and the Dragon typifies Patriotism and was chosen because it is a symbol of England and her effort to secure the conquest of right over might.

The precious mosaic and metals symbolise the preciousness of the lives, and the unselfish devotion at the hour of their country's need, of those to whom this Memorial is set.

The bronze symbolises their fortitude; the gold, the affection in which they are held; the unfading colour and brilliance of the enamels symbolises their undying glory.

The Choir of Heaven, seen through the veil as represented by the columns, gives glad welcome to happy faithful warriors.

The supporting figure on each side bids us also to keep prayerful watch and reverent guard over the treasure of their memory.

The occupations represented on the south side are symbolic of *all* the avocations which our men everywhere were called to leave in order to champion the great cause.

The figures in allegory on the north are emblematical of the qualities for which the contest was engaged, which the war evoked, and which all are to love and show at all times.

The oak and acorn carving symbolises strength and endurance.

The Cross, inspiring as it crowns all, is ever the symbol of Supreme Sacrifice.

THE PAGEANT OF HEROES.

During Whit Week, June 1st to 6th, 1914, Hastings was the scene of one of the finest shows of Pageantry that ever took place, and it is fitting to record in a work of this kind how Hastings did honour to famous men and women who in the past had been residents or were connected with the town in some way. The aim of the Pageant was to illustrate by means of the Historical Procession and Ceremony the story of Hastings as reflected in history and literature, and by placing tablets on the famous houses of the town where they had resided, to encourage all to the glory in the storied and heroic past. The idea emanated in the brain and imagination of Mr. Charles A. Farmer, a clever journalist, then on the staff of "The Argus," assisted by a host of our principal public-spirited men and women. Mr. Farmer was the Hon. General Secretary, and with the ready help of a large Committee, everything went smoothly and was an unqualified success. The episodes in the lives of these heroes were displayed in suitable tableaux beautifully designed and arranged on decorated cars, with the characters in costumes (and many well-mounted on horse-back) to represent the figures**pourtrayed* in history.

These Tableaux were arranged in chronological order as follows :—

1066 A.D.—*The Last Stand* at the Battle of Hastings, from the deathless story of Harold, designed by Mr. P. W. Cole, A.R.C.A., and produced by him in conjunction with Mr. Leslie Badham, R.B.A.

1066.—*William the Conqueror*. Tableaux on lines from the poet, Thomas Campbell.

1269.—*John O' Gaunt*, who received the Honour of Hastings and lived here. Designed by Mr. P. W. Cole, A.R.C.A.

1661.—*Edmund Waller*, the famous Poet of the Restoration. Designed by Mr. Emmerson.

- 1703.—*Admiral Sir Cloudesley Shovell*, who, in his heroic midshipman days carried an important dispatch between his teeth, swimming to the ship under the enemy's fire. This tableau took the form of a Hastings ship designed by old Hastings Fishermen.
- .—*Sir John Moore*, the great soldier, the hero of Quebec, accompanied by his staff. A mounted group, arranged by Major Forbes and Mr. Herbert Blackman. Sir John Moore spent some time at Hastings.
- 1781.—*David Garrick* at one of those little parties of which he was the spirit of mischief. He was a frequent visitor to Hastings with his friend, Mr. Edward Capell, the Censor of Plays and Shakesperean Commentator, at East Cliff House, All Saints' Street. Arranged by Messrs. Butler, Fuller, and Hatt.
- 1794.—*General James Murray*, who distinguished himself at the Battle of the Heights of Abraham, Quebec, and became the first Governor of Canada. He built Beauport (now Sir Arch. Lamb's), was a Jurat of Hastings, Lord of the Manor of Ore, and married a Hastings lady.
- 1799.—*Edmund Kean*, the famous actor, who, finding T. H. Cooper, the artist, suffering a misfortune, played "The Merchant of Venice" at the Hare-and-Hounds Theatre at Ore for his benefit. Tableaux designed by Mr. P. W. Cole, A.R.A., and produced by Mr. S. Taylor.
- 1805.—*Duke of Wellington*, who held the Command at Hastings after his brilliant services in Spain. The great soldier, after his marriage, brought his bride to Hastings and resided at Hastings House, near All Saints' Church, long since demolished. A scene arranged by Major Forbes.
- 1823.—*Charles Lamb*, who often stayed at Hastings and wrote in terms of ecstasy of Hollington Church-in-the-Wood and praised the beautiful scenery of the district.
- 1829.—*Tom Hood*, the Poet, who described its high seas and celebrated in verse old Tom Woodgate, who taught him sailing. Tableaux arranged by Mr. Swaffer and Mr. J. C. Miller.
- 1833.—*George Duke of Cumberland*, the blind King of Hanover, laid the foundation stone of Hastings Market Hall, George Street. Arranged by Mr. Geo. Holder, of the Y.M.C.A., the local headquarters of which was once the Duke's residence, and where the Royal Arms may still be seen.
- 1833.—*Queen Victoria*, who stayed at St. Leonards. The Tableaux designed by Mr. Duke Larcombe and arranged by Councillor W. J. Larcombe.
- 1854.—"Old Humphrey," *George Mogridge*, a prolific writer of books for the Religious Tract Society, who resided at

No. 4, High Wickham, and whose remains lie in All Saints' Churchyard. Tableaux produced by Mr. T. W. Avis.

- 1880.—*Our Famous Artists*. An emblematical Car to the honour of J. M. W. Turner, R.A., Thomas S. Cooper, R.A., Miss Marianne North, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, and Samuel Prout, who in their days sometime resided at Hastings, and many of their sketches of the town are still preserved. This Car was produced by members of the East Sussex Arts Club.
- 1860.—*Dante Gabriel Rossetti* married in this year to Mary Siddal, in St. Clement's Church, and sometime lived at Hastings, where he wrote his beautiful poem, "Sleep and Poetry." Tableaux arranged by Miss Mills and Mr. Swaffer.
- 1876.—*Coventry Patmore*, the poet of "The Angel in the House," who resided at Old Hastings House, High Street. He wrote many essays on Hastings, and built the Roman Catholic Church of St. Mary Star-of-the-Sea in memory of his wife. Tableaux arranged by Mr. Oscar Jenner.
- 1880.—*Herbert Spencer*, the eminent biologist and philosopher, who resided at The Mount, St. Leonards, where he wrote some of his memorable books. Car arranged by Mr. Coleman, with costumes designed by the East Sussex Arts Club.
- 1898.—*Mark Rutherford*, who lived at 9, High Wickham, for many years. The Tableaux representing a scene from "The Deliverance," arranged by Mr. Watt.
- 1837-1900.—The Empire of Victoria. The Tableaux, symbolising the development and unity of the Victorian Era, contributed by the Ore Bonfire Boys' Society.

Our living novelists who reside at Hastings were honoured by Tableaux Cars portrayed by scenes from their respective books :—

1. Miss Beetham Edwards, who lived at Villa Julia, 1, High Wickham. Scene from "Pearla," arranged by Miss E. Larcombe and Miss Hutchings.
2. Scene from "Home Life in France," arranged by Miss Kirk Bullock.
3. Scene from "The Lord of the Harvest," arranged by Mr. T. W. Avis.
4. Mr. Stephen Phillips. Scene from "Nero."
5. Mrs. Coulson Kernahan. A Ride in the Wild West, from "The Hired Girl," a Colonial "turn-out."
6. Mr. and Mrs. Coulson Kernahan. Scene from The Children's Wish, from "The Heart's Desire," showing the delightful illustration by Miss Dorothy Furniss to one of the stories.
7. Mr. Coulson Kernahan. Scene, In the Opium Den, from "The Dumping," constructed by Mr. Carter.

8. Mr. Warwic Deeping. Scene from "The Red Saint." Episode represents the coming of the Red Saint to Battle.
 9. Mr. Edward Noble. Scene, "Chains" Betty and the Midshipman with the good ship "Nerbuda."
 10. Mr. Harry Furniss. Scene from "The Lady of the Cinema," The Charming Terror.
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The unveiling of Tablets (placed upon the Houses where Literary Heroes had resided) :—

1. East Cliff House, All Saints Street, to the memory of Edward Capell, the Commentator of Shakespere, and David Garrick, his friend, who frequently visited him. Unveiled by Mr. Stephen Phillips. The house was then occupied by Mr. Harry Furniss.
2. To the memory of Kean and Elliston, the famous actors of Shakespeare's Plays—unveiling the Tablet fixed on the site of the Old Hare-and-Hounds Theatre, opposite Christ Church, Ore, by Sir H. Herbert Beerbohm Tree, accompanied by his old friend, Mr. Harry Furniss.
3. To the memory of Herbert Spencer, the great biologist and philosopher, at 4, The Mount, St. Leonards. Unveiled by Prof. Silvanus Thompson, D.Sc.
4. To the memory of Admiral Sir Cloudesley Shovell (knighted by Queen Anne for his undaunted bravery), at 125-6 All Saints' Street, the traditional home of his mother where he visited her. Unveiled by Admiral Sir Percy Scott, K.C.B.
5. To the memory of Mark Rutherford, at 9, High Wickham, Old London Road. Unveiled by Sir William Robertson Nicoll, LL.D. Mark Rutherford sometime resided at High Wickham. In accordance with the wish of relatives the Tablet was unveiled at the Town Hall, to be placed in position after a short lapse of time. The Tablet was unveiled at the Town Hall.
6. To the memory of General the Hon. James Murray, the Soldier Hero of Quebec and Minorca, who built Beauport, near Battle, and was a Jurat of Hastings and Lord of the Manor of Ore. Unveiled by the Hon. C. Gideon Murray (a descendant), Governor of St. Vincent.
7. To the memory of Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, the first qualified lady doctor and a devoted friend to women's causes. Unveiled at Exmouth Place by Mrs. Millicent Fawcett, LL.D.
8. To the memory of George Macdonald, at Holloway Place, Old London Road, unveiled by Mr. Coulson Kernahan, accompanied by Mr. Edward Noble.

In addition to the foregoing scenes, there was a Sea Pageant—with Diving Demonstrations by professional divers, Rocket Life-Saving Apparatus, Raft Building, Display of Resuscitation of the Apparently Drowned, Ship on Fire, Display of Life-Saving by Real Mining Heroes from Wales, Seaplane Flights from the Shore, Athletic Contests, Boy Scouts' Contest, etc.

The Civic welcomes to those ladies and gentlemen who performed the unveiling ceremonies and who were entertained by the Mayor (Councillor E. Armitage Hocking) and the Mayoress, Mr. Coulson Kernahan, Mrs. Tubbs and others, was a feature of the Pageant of Heroes. (The writer had the pleasure of taking an active co-operation in this Pageant and compiled the historical data in connection with several of the famous men whose memory was honoured.)

“A tablet to the Memory of Miss Matilda Beetham Edwards was affixed to No. 9, High Wickham, where she resided from 1884 till her death in 1919, and was unostentatiously unveiled by the Mayor (Councillor W. Perrins), in the presence of Mr. Thomas Parkin, J.P., an old friend and neighbour of Miss M. Beetham Edwards.”



The following views have been lent to the Author for reproduction, too late to be included in their proper order.

OLD TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET.

This view is from Moss's History of Hastings, and the building still remains, and is occupied by Messrs. Reeves & Son as an Antique Furniture Gallery. It is the successor of the first Town Hall erected on the same site in 1700 at the expense of John Pulteney and Peter Gott, Esquires, who at the time represented Hastings



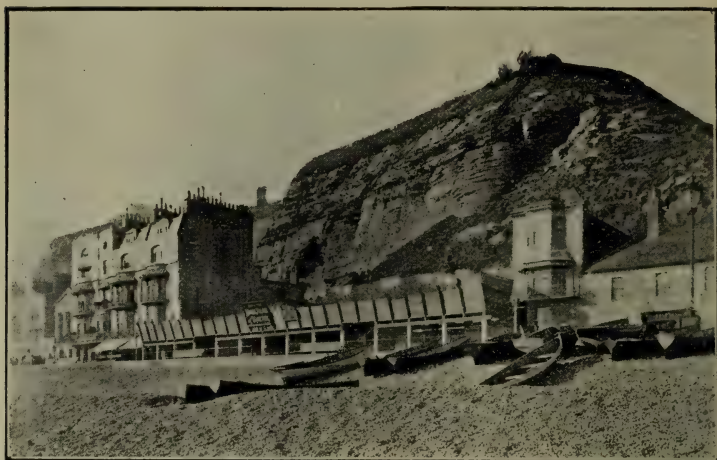
By W. G. Moss]

[From the Author's Collection

OLD TOWN HALL, HIGH STREET, ERECTED 1823.

Now occupied as an Antique Furniture Warehouse.

in Parliament. The one shewn consisted of a court-house and a Council Chamber, and for the administration of Justice. Being found inadequate as the town increased, the New Municipal Buildings in Queen's Road were opened in 1881, and the above Hall was vacated, and afterwards let for other purposes.



Photo]

[From the Author's Collection

PELHAM PLACE CLEARED FOR BUILDING THE NEW PALACE OF
VARIETIES.

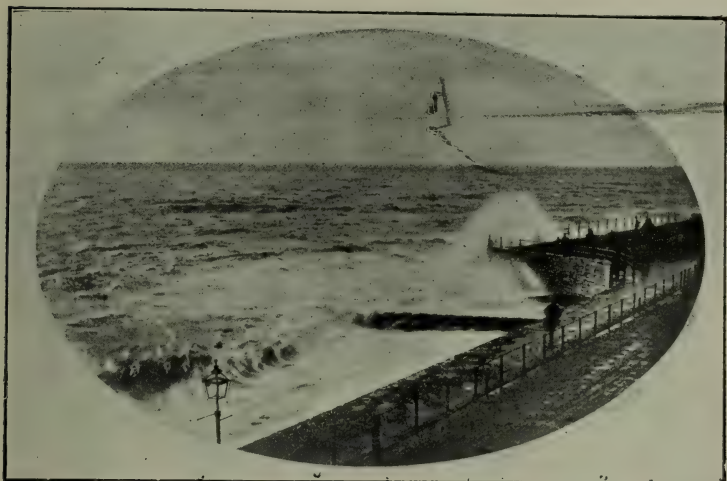
Pelham Place originally consisted of ten houses, was partly demolished in order to erect what is now called the *Cinema de Luxe*, the old and historic Marine Hotel (made historical by having been the temporary abode of the late Empress Eugenie and her son upon being exiled from France in 1870). This spot was the site of the Old Bathing House, shown in one of Col. F. G. Langham's views, on page 183.



[From the Author's Collection

BREEDS PLACE AND CASTLE STREET.
(Shewing Ransom and Ridley's Shipyard.)

Breeds Place consisted of 10 houses, and the taller ones in the centre bear the date 1828. Nos. 5 and 6 were formerly the residence of *Prince George* of Cumberland, afterwards King of Hanover. They are now the Head Quarters of the Y.M.C.A.



Photo]

[Lent by Mr. W. E. Brown

OLD CARLISLE PARADE AND WHITE ROCK PROMENADE.

(About 1884.)

Those who remember this locality in the sixties will be reminded that the Parade at White Rock was about ten feet wide, as seen here. Upon the formation of the Hastings Baths Company, Ltd., the splendid addition to the promenade was made by the Company from space reclaimed from the sea. For this grand improvement, this unfortunate Company is entitled to grateful remembrance. It will be noted that this view was taken before Hastings Pier was built, which was opened by Earl Granville (then Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports), on the August Bank Holiday, 1872. The event was celebrated by a banquet in the Pier Pavilion, at which the writer was present. The first portion of the Baths was opened 1874.



THE OLD INFIRMARY—WHITE ROCK.

This was completed in 1841, on the site of the present Hospital. The first stone of the latter was laid August 24th, 1885, and opened on October 13th, 1887.



[From the Author's Collection]

S LEONARDS ARCHWAY AND SEA FRONT.—1864.

When Crinolines were in vogue.

(Description on page 341.)

The St. Leonards Archway was the Eastern boundary of St. Leonards. The view on page 339 is from the "Gossiping Photographer," containing a very interesting lot of excellent photographs, amusingly described, embracing Hastings and St. Leonards and the neighbourhood sixty years ago. From left to right, Grand Parade, begun 1831, Warrior Square, finished 1864, Eversfield Place, begun 1850, Verulam Buildings, begun 1834, White Rock Place, begun 1835-6, Carlisle Parade, begun 1850, Robertson Street, 1850.



Frith]

[From the Author's Collection

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH AND A PEEP AT CLAREMONT (About 1864.)

This view shews the Drinking Fountain erected at the expense of the late Countess Waldegrave, and the house in the background on St. Michael's Rock, at the base of which is the present site of the Brassey Institute and the "Observer" Office, then a stonemason's yard belonging to the late Mr. George Winter. Holy Trinity Church was begun 1857, and opened 1858.

NEW VIEWS, NOT IN THE FIRST EDITION.

The first and primitive views of Hastings known to collectors (made from wood blocks) appeared in the "Gentleman's Magazine" about 1760, one of which will be found on page 171, representing the Castle. In 1780 S. H. Grimm and 1781 James Lambert, both eminent artists, made sketches at Hastings. The originals, ten by Grimm and seven by Lambert, are now in the British Museum, and have been examined by Mr. James Castello (a diligent collector of local views and guide books) on my behalf. Col. F. G. Langham has several of Grimm's in his unique collection. The three following views are reproduced from exquisite water-colour drawings by William Henry Brooke, who exhibited in the Royal Academy from 1810 to 1826.



By W. H. Brooke.

[Lent by Mr. Thos. Parkin.]

OLD HOUSES IN HIGH STREET FROM SALTER'S LANE TO THE GARDEN
WALL OF OLD HASTINGS HOUSE. CIRCA 1842.

These are now represented by Nos. 106a, 107 to 118, High Street, on the high pavement. No. 113, once the residence of Mr. William Scrivens, Solicitor, has been demolished.



By W. H. Brooke.

[Lent by Mr. Thos. Parkin]

VIEW FROM THE TORFIELD, OLD LONDON ROAD, AT THE TOP OF
HIGH STREET.

Shewing All Saints Church, Hastings House, which stood at the top of Old Humphrey Avenue, a view of which appears in this book, and the Tackleway and East Hill.



By F. W. L. Stockdale.

[Lent by Mr. Thos. Parkin.]

“HASTINGS FROM THE PRIORY.”

This view is reproduced from a coloured engraving, a copy of which appears in Stockdale's Guide, entitled "Sketches of Hastings, Winchelsea and Rye," published in 1817. It is interesting as shewing the inlet of water in the foreground, known as the "Condemned Hole," where smuggling craft was taken after capture and destroyed, and was near what is now Beach Terrace. A large part of the Stade with scattered buildings along the front as far westward as the Memorial Clock or Priory Bridge, prior to the development of modern Hastings, will be seen in the view.



Drawn by N. Whittock.

[Lent by Mr. W. Slade.]

HASTINGS FROM THE WHITE ROCK.

In the foreground of this view, where the ship and boats are shewn, is now Carlisle Parade and Robertson Terrace—then commonly known as the "America Ground," and the first Cliffs in the view were termed by the Surveyors to the Government when they reclaimed the Derelict Lands the "Western Cliffs," and formed the rising ground from Priory Street to Cornwallis Gardens and up Cambridge Road, where we now go down steps to Claremont, Trinity Street being on the level with the Ancient Haven. The Priory Valley is that between the West Hill and the Western Cliffs, and the Bourne Valley between the East and West Hills, where the Old Town is.



By W. H. Brooke.]

[Lent by Mr. Thos. Parkin.]

OLD HOUSES IN HIGH STREET—NOS. 19, 20 AND 21.

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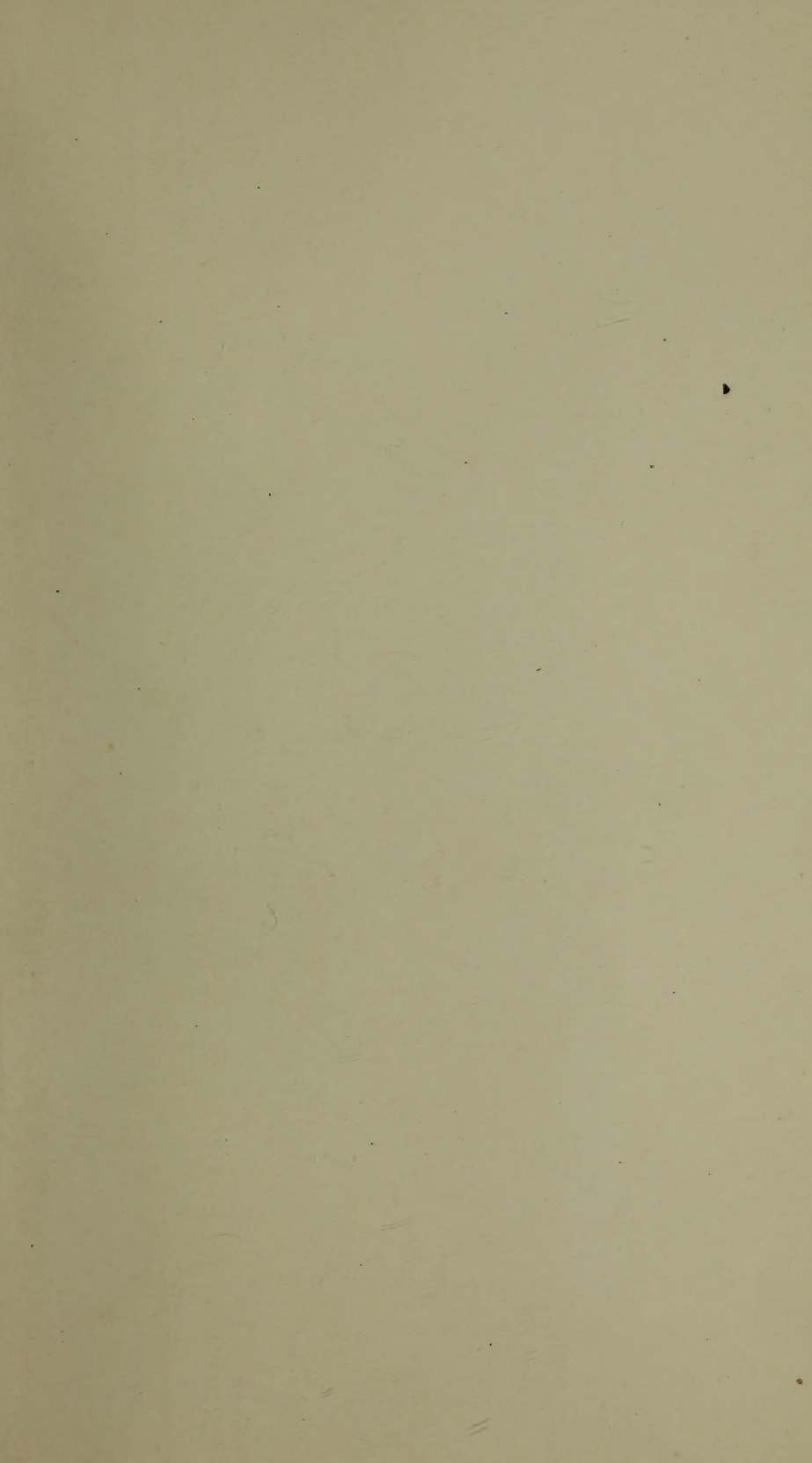
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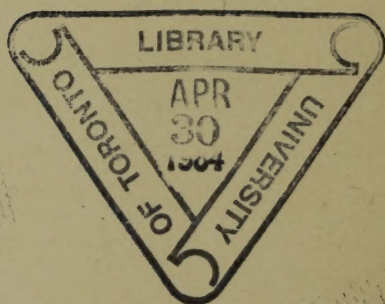
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